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Sunrise: 6:05 am  
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Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 29°C 84°F  
Ahmad: 27°C 81°F  
Falkland: 28°C 82°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 14°C 57°F  
Ahmad: 19°C 66°F  
Falkland: 16°C 61°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 28°C 82°F  
Ahmad: 27°C 81°F  
Falkland: 27°C 81°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 48 per cent  
Ahmad: 42 per cent  
Falkland: 62 per cent

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## GCC backs Iraqi claim

**NICOSIA, Nov 5, (Reuters):** Gulf Arab states expressed support today for Iraq's claims over the disputed Shatt Al Arab waterway on its southern border with Iran, the Omani News Agency ONA reported.

Information ministers from the six Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states also called on Iran and Iraq to begin a full exchange of prisoners of war, said the agency, received in Nicosia.

A communique issued after a one-day meeting in Muscat, Oman, said the GCC, which links Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, backed United Nations' efforts to breathe new life into stalled Iran-Iraq peace talks.

"The council stresses the need to respond to these efforts, reaffirming its support for Iraq's standing and historical rights in Shatt Al Arab waterway," it said.

Iraq has declared it has full sovereignty over the Shatt Al Arab, its main outlet to the Gulf, saying a 1975 agreement dividing the waterway with Iran is null and void.

The dispute is one of the main issues blocking progress at peace talks after a UN sponsored ceasefire in August 1988 ended eight years of fighting between Iran and Iraq.

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told special UN envoy Jan Eliasson today that Tehran regarded the 1975 Algiers agreement as "clear and valid," Iran's Iran news agency reported.

**See Page 12**

## Gulf moves into market

**BAHRAIN, Nov 5, (Reuters):** Three major Gulf oil producers plan to increase their overseas refining and marketing operations by buying into downstream ventures, a report said today.

Gulf International Bank economist Henry Azzam said in the monthly report that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates — with more than 45 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves — all sought stable markets for their crude.

He said Saudi Arabia, whose partnership with Tesco guarantees a US market for 615,000 barrels per day (BPD) of its crude exports, aimed to acquire refining and distribution facilities for four million bpd by the turn of the century.

**Details Page 14**

## Iran executes four 'US spies'

**NICOSIA, Nov 5, (AP):** Four US spies were executed in Iran during celebrations marking the anniversary of the seizure of the American embassy in Tehran by militants 10 years ago, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

It identified them as Touraj Riyahi, Kiyashou Hakimi Bushehri, Ardeshir Asfari and Ibrahim Moshaghi.

**Weather**

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with moderate north-easterly to north-westerly wind may freshen at times.

State of sea: Moderate.  
High water: 2.50 am, 6.54 pm  
Low water: 9.50 am, 10.48 pm  
Sunrise: 6:05 am  
Sunset: 4:58 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 29°C 84°F  
Ahmad: 27°C 81°F  
Falkland: 28°C 82°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 14°C 57°F  
Ahmad: 19°C 66°F  
Falkland: 16°C 61°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 28°C 82°F  
Ahmad: 27°C 81°F  
Falkland: 27°C 81°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 48 per cent  
Ahmad: 42 per cent  
Falkland: 62 per cent

# Lebanon gets a president at last: MPs give Gen. Aoun a bloody nose

Mouawad sworn in: Assad pledges support: peace plan ratified

**KLEIAT, Lebanon, Nov 5, (Agencies):** Parliament Deputy Rene Mouawad, a 22-year veteran of Lebanese politics, was elected President at a special Parliament session that convened in Syrian-policed north Lebanon, defying Christian Army General Michel Aoun's shelling threat.

Fifty-two parliamentarians voted for art-loving Mouawad, 64, in a second ballot after he failed to gather the required 49 votes, or two-thirds of Parliament's 73 surviving deputies, in the first round. Six abstained.

Fifty-eight deputies voted in the election session, with one parliamentarian, Bakhos Hakim, arriving at the flag-bedecked Lebanese Army airbase in Kleiat after his colleagues already had re-elected the house speaker and ratified an Arab League-brokered peace accord.

Syria was the first foreign country to react to the election of Mouawad whose first priority is to form a

national reconciliation government to end 14 years of civil war.

An official source in Damascus, Syria, quoted Assad as saying: "I am most glad to address to you my hearty congratulations... what was achieved today is a great accomplishment on the way to end Lebanon's long ordeal."

"I pledge to you and to the forthcoming government all our backing and support," the source, who could not be identified, quoted Assad as saying.

In the first ballot, Mouawad got 35 votes. Two other parliamentarians running for the top post, George Saadeh and Elias Hrawi, withdrew after the first round.

Saadeh, leader of the Phalange Party, got 16 votes and Hrawi, a businessman received five. Two parliamentarians abstained.

The new president, the ninth since Lebanon's independence from France in 1943, was immediately sworn in, underscoring Parliament's desire to start the process of reunifying the country as quickly as possible.

Christian leader Gen Aoun rejected Mouawad's election.

"What happened in Kleiat is an unconstitutional act and is null and void," Aoun said in a statement issued from his command bunker at the Presidential Palace in Beirut's suburb of Baabda.

"We are determined to thwart the conspiracy which is being hatched to eliminate what is left of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

Mouawad is known to favour a major role for Syria in the Lebanese peace process.

"We are not at confrontation with an elected president but will continue our campaign against the Syrian occupation," said Aoun.

His rejection sharpened a split that developed within Christian ranks after Parliament approved an Arab League-brokered peace accord in Saudi Arabia last month.

Aoun declared yesterday that he had dissolved Parliament as it prepared to meet in Beirut to ratify the peace accord.



**Blast victim**

Arab doctors wheel out Ahmad Omar Abu Sneneh, 11, after surgery when both the boy's feet were amputated. The boy and seven members of his family were injured when an explosion ripped through their home while they were eating on an outdoor patio. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Nigel bid failed Thatcher may quit after next election

**LONDON, Nov 5, (Reuters):** Britain's former chancellor of the exchequer, Nigel Lawson, said today his surprise resignation 10 days ago could have been averted if Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher had agreed to sack a controversial economic adviser.

His revelation came as Thatcher said for the first time that she may step down after the next general election.

Lawson, whose dramatic departure caused one of the worst political crises in Thatcher's decade in office, said he told the prime minister he would quit unless she fired her adviser, Sir Alan Walters, by the end of the year.

In a television interview, Lawson said he had told Thatcher: "provided he went by the end of the year, that would be acceptable, but otherwise my position as chancellor of the exchequer, I regret, would be untenable."

Thatcher had refused to accept the ultimatum. Walters, with whom Lawson had clashed on economic policy, also quit only minutes after the chancellor announced his resignation.

Lawson had been asked to explain the circumstances of his departure after the prime minister said a week ago she did not know why he had gone and that she had done all in her power to persuade him to stay.

Lawson said he had made himself clear, but he thought Thatcher did not believe his threat to quit had been serious.

Opposition Labour Party finance spokesman John Smith said later Lawson had contradicted Thatcher's account of events.

"It is clear the prime minister has been highly economical with the truth," he said.

Lawson's abrupt departure on Oct 26 put Thatcher under intense political pressure, prompting speculation about her future as leader of the Conservative Party.

In an interview today, the prime minister said she may step down, but not until after the next general election.

At the same time, however, Conservative Party chairman Kenneth Baker made it clear no challenge to her leadership would be tolerated before the election, which is due by June 1992.

The prime minister said she hoped to seek an unprecedented fourth term of office. But asked if she was likely to fight a fifth election, Thatcher told the Sunday Correspondent newspaper: "No, because I think people would think it was time for someone else to carry the torch."

It was her first public acknowledgement that she sees an eventual end to her term of office. She said after her third election triumph in 1987 that she planned to "go on and on".



Mouawad: President

Most legislators declared Aoun's move illegal. Under Lebanon's constitution, only the president can dissolve Parliament.

"No difficulties will stop me from following the path for the salvation of Lebanon," the new President vowed in his inauguration speech.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, a Sunni Muslim, who headed a Syrian-backed cabinet that competed for legitimacy with a military government under Aoun for the past 13 months, tendered his resignation to the new president to facilitate appointment of a new premier.

"This election is a triumph for a unified Lebanon and a promise of a better future," Hoss said in a statement broadcast by Muslim radio stations.

The historic session got under way at 3:25 pm (1325 GMT) in the presence of the 57 parliamentarians, eight more than the needed quorum of 48 to elect a president.

The legislators first re-elected house Speaker Hussein Hussein, a Shiite Muslim, for a one-year term. He has held the post since Oct 1984.

Then they unanimously ratified the peace accord to end the civil war that was brokered by the Arab League at a special Parliament meeting in Taif, Saudi Arabia, last month.

A suggestion by Saadeh and Christian Deputy Butros Harb that a supplementary document by the Arab League guaranteeing the accord also be voted was overruled. "This will be an inadmissible precedent," Hussein said.

Hussein flew into Kleiat with 29 mostly Christian deputies from Paris aboard two Middle East Airlines jets that landed at the base at 2:25 pm and 2:30 pm (1225 and 1230 GMT).

They linked up with 26 mostly Muslim legislators who drove to Kleiat from Beirut yesterday, and a 27th deputy who flew in from Geneva today.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who helped to formulate the Arab League plan for Lebanon, pledged full support today for Mouawad, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

In an apparent reference to Aoun, Fahd appealed to "all the Lebanese people, individuals, factions and armed forces to stand as one behind the President for the sake of Lebanon's welfare and unity."

Fahd said he was speaking on behalf of Algerian President Chadli Benjedid and King Hassan of Morocco, the two other members of an Arab League committee set up in May to end Lebanon's 14 years of civil war.

The Arab League also welcomed the election of Mouawad, saying courageous Lebanese deputies had chosen a sincere patriot and a man of enterprise.

Jordan's Foreign Minister Marwan Kasseb congratulated Mouawad and Hussein and expressed hopes for the peace of Lebanon.



**Cory a hit**

With the flags of the Philippines and British Columbia behind her, President Corazon Aquino addresses the Vancouver Board of Trade at a luncheon.

**See Page 2**

## Trial for 3 grave levellers

**KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Reuters):** Three Muslim fundamentalists have been taken to court for carrying dirt away from grave mounds in a Kuwaiti cemetery, a local newspaper said today.

The daily reported that the three, a Kuwaiti, a Saudi Arabian and a man said to be stateless, believed the teachings of the Holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) barred tombs from being higher than the surrounding ground.

The paper quoted court officials as saying the three entered the cemetery in the Sulaiykhah suburb west of Kuwait city on Oct 5 and brought in a small pick-up truck to carry dirt away from several graves.

## US talks to Libya

**LONDON, Nov 5, (Reuters):** US officials are holding secret talks with Muammar Khaddafi, the Libyan leader Washington accuses of funding international terrorism, the Sunday Correspondent newspaper said.

The Correspondent, quoting senior US diplomatic sources, said in a front-page story the talks began after Libya signalled through the Belgian and Dutch governments it wanted to improve relations.

The US Air Force bombed the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986, accusing Khaddafi of backing a bomb attack on a West Berlin discotheque used by US soldiers. Since then there have been several skirmishes between US and Libyan armed forces near the Libyan coast.

## Kashmir extremists kill judge in revenge

**SRINAGAR, India, Nov 5, (UPI):** Muslim fundamentalists in northern Jammu and Kashmir state yesterday shot dead a retired Hindu judge who had sentenced an Islamic extremist leader to death, police said.

Nala Kanth Ganjoo, 72, was confronted by the attackers as he walked through a congested business district of the state capital of Srinagar, 400 miles (640 km) northwest of New Delhi, police said.

The gunmen fired three rounds at the retired Hindu sessions court judge from close range, killing him instantly, police said.

Tension rose throughout the city as news of the murder spread, with shops closing their doors and police stepping up patrols.

Authorities said the assassins appeared to have killed Ganjoo in revenge over the death of Muslim leader Maqbool Butt, whom Ganjoo sentenced to death for the 1978 slaying of a police intelligence officer.

Butt was the founder of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, an insurgent group.

## Gandhi plays Hindu card Politics of partition

**NEW DELHI, Nov 5, (Reuters):** Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has played what he considers the best card in a weak election hand by appealing to India's 650 million Hindus at the very start of his campaign.

Rajiv made his intentions clear on Friday by launching his party's campaign near Ayodhya, north India, where Hindus and Muslims are locked in a dispute over a shrine.

He promised Hindus, who dominate India's population of 800 million, that a mythical kingdom of the Hindu deity Ram would be restored to India if his Congress Party won the polls. The elections are scheduled for Nov 22, 24 and 26.

"By choosing a place near Ayodhya, Mr Gandhi was indirectly wooing the Hindus," said Ashis Nandy of an independent think tank, the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies.

Hindu militants are expected to converge on the town to start building on Nov 9 a shrine at a spot where they believe Ram was born. Muslims, who already have a mosque there, say they will resist the Hindu attempt.

Rajiv also warned that he would deal firmly with those causing communal violence.

But opposition politicians condemned his speech as an attempt to stoke the flames. More than 200 people died in a week of Hindu-Muslim riots in northern India last month.

The northern Hindi-speaking region controls nearly half the seats in the lower house.

But Hindus are divided by caste, region and language making it hard to appeal to them as an electoral bloc, said Pran Chopra of the independent Centre for Policy Research.

"Only a direct threat to the Hindu identity will make the community overlook these divisions and unite behind a single political party in an election," Chopra said Rajiv's mother started cultivating the Hindu vote on her return to power in 1980 after a three-year spell of opposition rule because she was aware that her party's traditional electoral coalition had broken down.

That coalition included the country's 100 million Muslims and the upper caste Brahmins among Hindus, as well as the middle class, Chopra said.

But the unexpected success of the usually-fragmented opposition in coming together in time for an electoral alliance has increased pressure on Rajiv to seek new areas of support.

In general elections in 1984 the Congress swept to victory with its biggest-ever majority because of sympathy generated for Rajiv by the murder that October of his mother, Indira Gandhi.

**See also Page 2**

## 4 from drill ship rescued; search on for 400 typhoon victims

**BANGKOK, Nov 5, (UPI):** Rescue ships and planes searched the Gulf of Thailand today for an estimated 400 sailors missing in the wake of typhoon Gay, and officials said high winds and floods left at least 52 people dead on land.

Thai fishermen rescued four crewmen from the American drill ship Seacrest, which capsized in the typhoon on Friday.

The four, three Thais and an Indonesian, were the only ones rescued so far from the 97-man crew of the ship owned by the Thai subsidiary of the California-based oil company Unocal Corp., a company spokeswoman said.

Unocal spokesman Carol Scott, however, said the overturned hull was slowly sinking and there were no signs of additional survivors.

"I think there is little or no hope for anyone still in there. The crew members were badly damaged and there is no air trapped there," he said, adding that the search was continuing for crew members who may have escaped the doomed ship.

Scott said Unocal divers using lights and remote-control underwater vehicles were trying to recover two bodies spotted in the ship.

The 361-foot (111 m) Seacrest was largest of the dozens of vessels sunk or capsized by typhoon Gay.

Navy rescue ships, planes and helicopters continued to search for survivors from the typhoon, which sank at least three large ships and 35 fishing trawlers, according to a Thai Navy count.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Cory receives hero's welcome

Filipinos urged to invest more

VANCOUVER, Nov 5, (AP): Philippine President Corazon Aquino received a hero's welcome from the local Filipino community and urged Canadian business people to invest in her homeland.

Yesterday, the first day of her state visit to Canada, Aquino basked in applause from about 1,200 members of the Vancouver Filipino community, which numbers more than 20,000.

"You are not just a head of state, you are not just the president of the Philippines, you are our Cory," said Arturo Alafiz, a Vancouver lawyer who helped stage the reception.

Aquino was on a four-day visit to Canada, the first ever by a Philippine president. Joined by a trade and government delegation, she travels to Toronto today before meeting Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in Ottawa tomorrow to sign several bilateral agreements.

About 30 demonstrators protesting the Philippine military's human rights record met Aquino as she arrived at the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre to address business leaders, then appear at a sold-out reception organised by local Filipinos.

The diminutive Aquino, who arrived from Manila, enjoyed a folksy entertainment programme, that included a children's choir performance.

In a speech, Aquino said her government had reintroduced

democracy peacefully to the Philippines against great odds and wants the help of international business and expatriate Filipinos to revive its wrecked economy.

She praised her armed forces, saying they were turning the tide against Communist insurgents, but doing it "with due regard for human rights."

Later, at a dinner hosted by Premier Bill Vander Zalm, she pleaded for moderation from political factions.

"Both sides must stop rejoicing over each other's crimes and realise that they stand, in the eyes of all good men and true, as nothing more than criminals," she said.

The Philippines now is a politically stable place to invest, Aquino told 1,000 business people at the Vancouver Board of Trade. Canadian business should follow the lead of Japanese and Taiwanese companies who find her country a profitable place to be, she said.

Canadian two-way trade with the Philippines reached about \$189 million last year, but total Canadian investment in the country is only \$36 million, said Adolfo Azcona, Aquino's press secretary.

Philippine Muslim gunmen today freed 12 government workers they had kidnapped to demand compensation for fishponds damaged by a state power project.



Rally for Marcos

Supporters of former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos flash V (for victory) at a rally in a Manila plaza. The rallyists denounced police dispersal of their demonstration outside a military camp on Saturday to demand the return of Marcos' remains from Hawaii. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Temple of hatred

Hindu-Muslim conflict

NEW DELHI, Nov 5, (AP): Swearing devotion to the Hindu deity Ram and a willingness to die for their beliefs, hundreds of young men set out yesterday with sanctified bricks on a mission that has spurred Hindu-Muslim riots and caused at least 280 deaths.

Their destination is Ayodhya, 325 miles (532 kilometres) to the southeast, where plans for a new Hindu temple have propelled religious strife to the forefront of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's battle for re-election.

From the width and depth of India, convoys of trucks and buses are heading to Ayodhya in the heart of Uttar Pradesh, India's most populous state and a bell-wether in elections. In their wake, Muslims and Hindus have shot, stabbed and burned each other to death.

"To put up the bricks for the Hindus, this is important," said Rajesh Kumar, a 19-year-old student who joined the procession of seven buses and at least four trucks that left New Delhi yesterday.

"The name of the god Ram is enough to defend ourselves," he said, then patted a holster containing a brass trident with sharp spears. "This is just a symbol, not a weapon."

Some of the young men carried sabres and hockey sticks, which older organisers hastened to describe as religious symbols or evidence of youthful sportsmanship.

On Thursday, ardent Hindus plan to lay the foundation for a new temple to lord Ram in Ayodhya next to a disputed shrine claimed by both Muslim and Hindus.

Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the fundamentalist group behind the temple drive, says it has gathered bricks from more than 375,000 cities and towns throughout India and from Hindus in Canada, the United States and Western Europe. After being blessed by Hindu holy men, the bricks are borne by believers and festooned with bright red and orange satin and chiffon, tied up with tinsel and garlanded with marigolds.

This celebration of religious right has left a trail of death in villages where Hindus and Muslims have lived side by side for centuries.

Hindu-Muslim clashes are particularly worrisome now.

With national elections barely three weeks away, both Rajiv and opposition leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh have been urging religious harmony while at the same time trying not to alienate the Hindu fundamentalist vote or the potentially pivotal vote of Muslims, who make up 11 per cent of the population. Hindus account for 82 per cent.

Rajiv officially launched his campaign Friday in Faizabad, a few miles (kilometres) down the road from Ayodhya, with an accusation that unnamed opposition parties were "fanning communal feelings for their vested political interests."

"Communalism" is the catchword Indian politicians and news media use for religious strife in an effort to avoid singling out specific faiths or being perceived as taking sides.

Back in New Delhi, Singh of the opposition National Front coalition was accusing Rajiv's Congress Party of trying to turn Ayodhya into "a flashpoint" of communal violence.

Many participants in yesterday's send-off of the convoy said they would vote for the Bharatiya Janata Party. This right-wing Hindu party is not a member of the National Front but has been making deals with the front for a share of the Parliament seats to be determined in the elections being conducted Nov 22, 24 and 26.

The young men making the trip, as well as older ones encouraging them, vowed that the journey would be peaceful unless the Muslims started something or the government failed to maintain order.

In late October, similar "Ram shila," or Ram brick, processions precipitated several days of Hindu-Muslim clashes in Bihar state. At least 201 people died by official count, which does not specify the victims' religions.

## 36 Tamils die as rivals fight

First clash after pullout

COLOMBO, Nov 5, (AP): At least 36 Tamils were killed and 15 were seriously injured in gunbattles today between two rival guerrilla groups in eastern Sri Lanka, officials said.

The pre-dawn fighting at Tampuluvil and Tampurte villages, 30 kms (20 miles) southeast of Ampara town, was the first clash between rival Tamils since Indian peacekeeping soldiers pulled out of the district two weeks ago.

Military officials said about 50 members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest and most militant rebel group, raided two military camps run by rivals and killed 30 men.

Six Tamil Tigers also were killed in the fighting, which lasted about an hour, said the officials who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The officials said the attackers also abducted about 30 men. The camps apparently are run by a shadowy group called the Tamil national army, a militia organised by former rebel groups to try to maintain order in the violence-wracked region.

Residents in Ampara, 200 kms (125 miles) east of Colombo, said in telephone interviews that an unofficial curfew was imposed in the town and all shops were closed and streets deserted.

A Tamil Tiger leader in Colombo confirmed the attack. "Action has been taken to dismantle the illegal Tamil national army," he said.

Lt Gen. Hamilton Wanasinghe, the Sri Lankan army commander, said troops rushed to the two villages in northeastern province.

The soldiers will "take necessary action and see that there is no repetition" of such incidents, Wanasinghe said.

Vartharaja Perumal, a senior provincial official, yesterday denied there was any Tamil army or militia in areas vacated by Indian troops.

India withdrew about 4,000 soldiers from Ampara district last month, heightening fears of a renewed bloodbath between rival Tamils.

The latest fighting marked a new phase in the 6-year-old struggle by the Tamil Tigers and other guerrilla groups for a separate Tamil homeland in the north and east.

Most groups gave up the armed secession under an India-mediated accord in July 1987. The Tamil Tigers briefly accepted the agreement but then turned their guns on the Indian soldiers.

The Indians were deployed to supervise the accord. Their numbers swelled from 2,000 to about 100,000 as the Tamil Tigers began attacking. The Indian force has been withdrawn in batches and the remaining 36,000 soldiers are scheduled to leave by Dec 31.

As the deadline advances, concern has been mounting over who will keep the peace in the area.



In search of father

A young boy and his blind grandfather wait to petition Sri Lankan President Premadasa, who was visiting southern Matara. They have had no word of the boy's father since early 1989 when he was detained by the police. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Strike shuts Bangladesh

Over 100 hurt in clashes

DHAKA, Nov 5, (Reuters): Riot police fired rubber bullets and tear-gas in clashes with strikers, injuring at least 100 people, during a nation-wide anti-government stoppage in Bangladesh today, officials and witnesses said.

The opposition called the strike as part of a campaign to oust President Hussain Muhammad Ershad.

The clashes occurred when police tried to break up stone-throwing pickets in the Adamjee Jute Mill on the outskirts of Dhaka. Sixteen strikers were arrested.

Hours before the strike took hold, three students were wounded when shooting broke out around midnight between pro and anti-government factions at Dhaka University.

The dawn-to-dusk strike, called by a seven-party opposition alliance, virtually shut the country down. Most domestic flights were cancelled, offices and industries were closed and rail and ferry transport disrupted. Alliance leaders said they

called the stoppage to renew a campaign to try to force Ershad, who has ruled Bangladesh for more than seven years, from power.

The move follows a similar but abortive campaign in 1987.

Armed police patrolled main cities as the strike gripped the country despite a government plea to workers to ignore the call.

All shops and businesses in Dhaka were shut and police escorted special buses to take government employees to offices.

The stoppage also halted operations in the country's main seaport in Chittagong but the second port at Mongla functioned normally, officials said.

The opposition wants Ershad, the 59-year-old retired army general, to resign and demands fresh elections under a neutral, caretaker government.

Ershad has refused to resign. But he said he would like to discuss possible new elections with the opposition. Parliamentary elections are not due until 1993.

No reports of casualties

## Tremor in Japan

TOKYO, Nov 5, (AP): An intense earthquake off the Pacific coast of northeastern Japan was recorded this morning, the central meteorological agency said.

An agency official said the earthquake, measuring 6.0 on the Richter scale, occurred at 5:12 am (2012 GMT). The quake was centred at 150 kms (93 miles) off the coast of Sanriku in Iwate prefecture, about 550 kms (341 miles) northeast of Tokyo.

Police said there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage. No tidal waves or tsunami were generated, the meteorological agency official said.

The earthquake occurred in the same general area as a series of earlier tremors during the past several weeks. The largest of these was a quake Thursday which registered 7.3 on the Richter scale.

More than 6,000 people were temporarily evacuated from coastal towns for fear of major waves spawned by the Thursday quake. No casualties or major damage were reported, however.

Two sharp earthquakes jolted Wellington within 10 hours yesterday and today, government scientists said.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

NEW YORK: Actor Paul Newman has donated \$250,000 and 10,000 pounds (4,536 kilograms) of his spaghetti sauce to victims of the Bay area earthquake, the Daily News reports.

Nell Newman, the actor's daughter, presented the money to the American Red Cross Quake Relief Fund in San Francisco, the newspaper said Thursday.

Newman is president of Newman's Own Inc., which makes spaghetti sauce, popcorn, salad dressing and lemonade; Nell Newman gave the sauce to Operation California, set up by the entertainment industry to help quake victims. (AP)

CORONADO, California: Former President Jimmy Carter says he would not accept a million-dollar speaking fee like his successor, Ronald Reagan, reportedly received during his recent trip to Japan.

But, "I've never been offered that much," Carter joked Tuesday night before speaking to San Diego county business leaders about Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit group that helps low-income families build their own homes.

Carter refused to criticize Reagan directly for reportedly accepting \$2 million in speaking fees during his trip to Japan, including \$1 million for a single speech to the Fujian Communications Group last week in Tokyo. (AP)

NEW YORK: There is a Times Square in New York City, and a Herald Square and Madison Square. Soon there may be an Ed Koch Square-but far from New York.

Shame Lohat, the mayor of Tel Aviv, surprised New York Mayor Edward I. Koch on Wednesday by telling him that he has proposed naming an area in Israel's largest city Ed Koch Square.

Lohat said it was in honour of Koch's contributions to "the New York City of the Middle East." He said an city hall that Koch has helped Tel Aviv "manage its unprecedented growth and with our plans for the future."

Asked if the Tel Aviv City Council will approve the measure, Lohat said, "of course." (AP)

LAKE MARY, Florida: A parachutist apparently plunged to his death while attempting to land on a high school football field to deliver a game ball to his son, authorities said.

Al Mitternichts, 38, who was supposed to land on the field before the game Friday night at Lake Mary High School, was found dead on the ground a few blocks from the stadium where a crowd had awaited him.

His son Allen, a member of the Lake Mary team, came up with the idea for his father to jump, said principal Don T. Reynolds. (AP)



All Honda Idea Contest

Left: A pilot in a cockpit without wings and tail section operates a 'landing gear' for a taxiing. The computer-controlled double wheel balanced motor vehicle was shown in the All Honda Idea Contest at an amusement park in suburban Tokyo Nov. 4.



Right: A motorbike that runs with only a rubber-belt caterpillar catches eyes of passers-by. The tireless bike enables to speed up on a spiky road without fear of puncture, the eight-member inventor team said. (Reuter wirephoto)

'I told her to go away'  
Bar manager ignores rape

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 5, (AP) - A tavern manager said he ignored cries for help from a woman who was gang-raped by as many as 11 men because his bar was closed and he didn't want to get involved.

The woman, 21, told police she was gang-raped and beaten by 10 or 11 men about 3 am Thursday in the run-down working-class neighbourhood. She was treated for rape and numerous cuts and bruises at a hospital and then released.

"She came banging on the door; she was screaming and hollering," Willie Johnson, manager of the Shangri-La Lounge, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch in Friday's editions. "She was pulling on the bars of the door."

"I told her to go away. A guy picked her up and took her back behind the alley," Johnson said. "I didn't do anything. It might have been a set up for me."

Johnson's wife, Ernestine, who owns the tavern, agreed with her husband's decision to do nothing. Ernestine Johnson had not been aware of the attack while it was in progress.

"In this business, when you're in a cash business, you can't trust anybody," Ernestine Johnson said. "These women get into it with men all the time."

Sex crimes detective Mark Chambers said the victim was also pistol-whipped and cut on the hand with a knife.

VANCOUVER, British Columbia: The Rolling Stones, in town for concerts Wednesday and Thursday, played cat-and-mouse with photographers and fans.

Mick Jagger, out for a Tuesday afternoon jog, jumped into a trailing limousine when he spotted a television crew.

Jagger, wearing a gray sweatshirt and dark glasses, had popped out of an elevator earlier at the Four Seasons hotel, where the rock 'n' roll band and its entourage have 10 suits on three floors. He sprinted through the lower lobby with his entourage and jumped into a waiting taxi. (AP)

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania: Pulitzer prize-winning author Alice Walker says the violence in some of her writing is an outgrowth of her childhood as the daughter of Georgia Sharecroppers.

"It was a bad system where people could not get out of debt," Ms. Walker told about 600 people Tuesday at Temple University. "We lived in shacks. I was 17 before I lived in a house that didn't leak."

"I was trying for myself to understand how this system of human exploitation so killed the spirit of people... that they were unable to love their own. And why is it that they turned on their own?"

ORLANDO, Florida: A police dog that was stabbed six times by a robbery suspect last year has helped send his assailant to prison by appearing as a prosecution witness in the man's trial.

Jeru, an 8-year-old German Shepherd was called to the witness stand Thursday by prosecutors who wanted to show the jury the dog is normally calm and non-threatening.

William Kenneth Bryant, the man accused of stabbing Jeru several times after Jeru caught Bryant in a crime-scene chase, had claimed as part of his defence that the dog was overly aggressive and that he had stabbed the dog in self-defence.

Fights on job lead to stress

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5, (UPI) - Workers of the world beware: squabbles at the office appear to be the No. 1 cause of stress, a study warned yesterday.

Arguments with your spouse or children are certainly distressing but arguments with somebody outside the home, like a workmate or a neighbour or a boss, are the most stressing on a day-to-day basis," said Niall Bolger, a social psychologist at the University of Denver.

The study, published in the November edition of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, was based on "daily stress diaries" kept by 166 married couples in the Detroit area over a period of six weeks.

These diaries documented nearly 12,000 incidents of hostility, anxiety and depression - the most serious of which appeared to be linked to work and not the home, the study found.

There appeared to be several reasons for the findings, said Bolger and his three fellow researchers, Ronald Kessler and Elizabeth Schilling of the University of Michigan and Anita Delongis of the University of British Columbia.

"We used a rather comprehensive list of things that get to people... the car breaking down, missing the bus, the computer going down," Bolger said. "These are the things that really don't get to people. It's the conflicts with other people."

In most cases, "when you have an argument with your wife or husband, you know that they love you. There's enough intimacy and understanding there not to escalate into something like there is at work," he said.

But at the office, "there just isn't the same degree of understanding to make an argument not very threatening," Bolger said.

Although the researchers said there appear to be twice as many arguments at home, the battles in the office can cause more immediate harm.

"We know they can get more out of hand and there's probably more at stake," Bolger said. "It's one thing to argue whose going to bring kids to school this morning than how you're doing on your job... whether you're going to have that job tomorrow, whether you're going to get that promotion or get that raise."

Child rescued from mom

HOUSTON, Texas, Nov. 5, (AP) - A 15-month-old boy held at knife point by his mother was rescued when police distracted the woman with a small explosion, smashed the windows of her car and grabbed the child.

Tracy Diane Lewis, 24, was jailed yesterday on \$300,000 bond on two charges of aggravated assault and one charge of injury to a child, police Sgt. A.D. Moore said.

She was taken into custody 13 hours after she locked herself in the car with her son, Brandon Duke, on a street in Houston.

The boy suffered a minor laceration on his back and some dehydration but was in good condition at Ben Taub Hospital, Moore said.

Ms Lewis has a history of psychiatric problems and once made a public suicide attempt, police said. She was in a psychiatric holding cell and will undergo testing, Sgt. Michael McQuinty said.

She held a hunting knife near Brandon's throat during the standoff and appeared to be hallucinating, police said.



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see page 5 and page 7.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Polls may point to shift on race, abortion

## US elections: A tale of dirty tactics

NEW YORK, Nov 5, (Reuters): Americans go to the polls on Tuesday with a chance to demolish some longstanding racial barriers — by electing the first black state governor and the first black mayor of the nation's largest city.

Negative television advertisements and below-the-belt accusations seem the order of the day as New York elects a new mayor and Virginia and New Jersey choose new governors in what political experts see as an unpleasant continuation of the dirty politics that dominated the 1988 presidential

campaign. Overt race-baiting has been missing as Virginia Democrat Douglas Wilder tries to become the first black to be elected a state governor and David Dinkins, also a Democrat, bids to become the first black to run New York after robbing Mayor Ed Koch of his chance at a record fourth four-year term.

But while some Virginians say they are not aware of Wilder's race, Wilder's Republican opponent, J. Marshall Coleman is.

He made race an issue last Thursday at a finger-pointing news conference in which he angrily accused the press of giving Wilder a free ride because of his race.

"I don't think it matters how much history Doug Wilder's election on Tuesday would make. I for one am not going to stand by and watch a person who is unfit glide into office with a 'feel good, make history' message and cry of 'negative' every time someone dares to tell the truth about him."

Wilder is seeking to become governor in a state that for years symbolised the attitudes of the south where segregation of the races was "now and forever" and where the statehouse served as the presidency of the pro-slave confederacy in the civil war.

It is also a state with only a 15 per cent black population and while Wilder is narrowly ahead in the polls there is a large undecided vote that could swing to Coleman.



Jose Torres (left) raises his hands in unity with Dinkins (right) (Reuters wirephoto)

## Cocaine bust may be NY's largest

NEW YORK, Nov 5, (UPI): Federal agents raided a Queens warehouse and seized an estimated 5-1/2 tons (5,000 kg) of cocaine that were hidden under layers of caustic lye and could add up to the city's largest bust ever, authorities said yesterday.

Members of the Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Unit, clad in protective suits and masks, were busy yesterday prying open about 260 barrels found in a building in the boroughs Long Island city section, authorities said.

"This one here would be the largest (net) if it turns out to 10,000 pounds and that's what we estimate it will be right now," said Richard Mercier, the special agent in charge of New York customs.

It is expected to take workers until about 3 am to unseal and recover all the drugs from the drums in which they were packed in the warehouse.

Authorities are still investigating to determine the possible involvement of the buildings owners, who are known to police, Mercier said. No arrests were made in the raid conducted by the DEA and US Customs agents, he said.

Earlier, officials said the drums were believed to contain an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of cocaine, a stash that would be worth hundreds of millions of dollars on the street.

In New York City, a pound of cocaine has a street value of \$80,000, making the seizure worth an estimated \$640 million to \$880 million, said Drug Enforcement Administration spokeswoman Mary Cooper.

The Brooklyn district attorneys office first developed information on the case, and they passed what they knew onto the US Customs' Intelligence Division, which tracked the shipment to Philadelphia and New York.

## UN presses Contra talks

## Honduras opens border for refuge

UNITED NATIONS, Nov 5, (Reuters): The UN Secretary-General has said the differences between the Nicaraguan government and the Contra rebels are so great that a meeting between both sides should not be delayed, diplomats said today.

The United Nations confirmed that a meeting between the leftist Sandinista government and the US-backed rebels was called off for Monday but said it was seeking a session at a later date, a spokesman said.

According to diplomats, Javier Perez de Cuellar, briefing the Security Council late on Friday, also said that if the United Nations had its proposed peacekeeping operation in place in Central America, the situation in Nicaragua might not have deteriorated so quickly.

The Secretary-General has asked the council to approve a 625-person task force to control cross-border movements of arms, such as clandestine assistance to the Contras inside Nicaragua and to leftist guerrillas fighting the government of El Salvador.

The Contras and the Sandinista government had been invited to meet at UN headquarters for verification and support, set up to help disband the Contras under a Central American peace plan.

The Nicaraguan government had requested the meeting, apparently pressing ahead with a dual strategy of trying to smash the Contras in the field while

pursuing peace talks. Late on Friday, however, the Contras asked that the meeting be postponed a week, saying they did not have enough time to prepare.

UN spokesman Juan Carlos Brandt said that discussions were underway with both parties "in order to agree on the dates and the format of the meetings."

Renewed fighting in Nicaragua appears to have killed all prospects for disbanding the Contra rebels by the Dec 5 deadline set by a Central American peace accord.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega on Wednesday lifted a 19-month ceasefire in the war against the US-backed rebels, citing a series of ambushes carried out by Contras who slipped back into Nicaragua from their Honduran base camps.

Nicaraguan military officials said yesterday troops were pressing on with search and destroy missions in an offensive that started hours after Ortega's announcement.

Honduras announced yesterday that it will allow 4,000 Nicaraguan Contra rebels to enter its territory to escape the Nicaraguan army.

Earlier in the week, President Ortega announced an end to the 19-month ceasefire between his government and the Contras, saying the rebels have been hampering voter registration. Sandinista troops have launched a major offensive against Contra strongholds in recent days.



A Sandinista soldier stops to eat Nov 3 while riding in a military caravan. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Dealer turned over to Florida

TALLAHASSEE, Florida, Nov 5, (UPI): A Colombian hotel owner wanted on US cocaine trafficking charges dating as far back as early 1983 was spirited out of Bogota yesterday and extradited to the United States, US marshals said.

Guillermo Juan Delgado Baeza, a former Florida resident, appeared under heavy guard before a US magistrate in Tallahassee, who ordered him held until a formal arraignment, a spokesman for the US marshals service said.

"The only comment we can make is that he's being held in a very secure area in the northern district of Florida," the spokesman said.

Delgado Baeza was flown out of Colombia shortly after 6.30am yesterday by the service's special operations group and arrived in Tallahassee at 10am authorities said.

He was indicted in Gainesville, Fla., in 1985 on cocaine trafficking conspiracy charges and also has been indicted on similar charges in California in 1983 and in Illinois in 1985.

Colombian authorities arrested Delgado Baeza, 54, on Sept 14, but did not turn him over to US marshals until yesterday, in response to an extradition request from the Justice Department.

Delgado Baeza was indicted in Florida on Oct 25, 1985, on charges of conspiring with 17 other persons from 1980 to 1985 to import cocaine into the United States.

A presidential candidate whose predecessor was killed by drug traffickers cancelled two campaign stops after a bomb was found on a bridge hours before he was to cross it, a campaign official said yesterday.

The national campaign official discounted a radio report that leftist guerrillas were behind the apparent bombing attempt.

The candidate, Cesar Gaviria, had co-ordinated the campaign of Sen. Luis Carlos Galan until drug traffickers assassinated the senator at an Aug 19 political rally. Gaviria subsequently decided to run for the presidency.

On Friday, federal agents assigned to protect Gaviria discovered a powerful dynamite bomb under a bridge on the road between Cienega and Fundacion, two towns on Colombia's northern coast, the campaign official told the Associated Press at the candidate's national headquarters in Bogota.

Gaviria, one of three leading presidential contenders, was scheduled to travel the road just hours later, the campaign official said, speaking on condition that he not be named.

He added that no group had claimed responsibility for the bomb, which forced Gaviria to cancel campaign stops at Cienega and Fundacion in the northern state of Magdalena.

Gaviria's political organizer for the state, Juan Carlos Vives, said at a news conference that leftist guerrillas were responsible for the bombing attempt. His comments were broadcast yesterday by the national radio chain RCN.

The national campaign official, however, denied that anyone in the campaign had received any information implicating guerrillas. "It is unclear who is responsible for the attack," he said. "It could have been any one of a number of groups, including drug traffickers and guerrillas."

## Bush will keep Quayle in 1992: 'His heart is in it'

DALLAS, Nov 5, (AP): President George Bush said he intends to keep Vice-President Dan Quayle on the ticket in 1992 because Quayle is doing an outstanding job and because "his heart is in it."

Bush's endorsement of the Vice-President marked his heart explicit statement that he would retain Quayle if he seeks re-election. Quayle's press secretary, David Beckwith, said yesterday, that the vice-president would have no comment on Bush's remarks.

"He's doing a very good job, an outstanding job," Bush said in an interview with the Dallas Morning News, adding that Quayle is "doing exactly what I want him to do and doing it because his heart is in it."

Bush discussed a broad range of domestic and foreign issues, from taxes to US relations with China and the Soviet Union in the interview.

The President, who campaigned on a pledge of no new taxes, would not speculate

whether he would look for new sources of revenue next year.

"I said certainly we're going to try to get by this year — and we are. We're going to succeed in that. And then we take on next year."

The President also said he is very eager to talk with former president Richard Nixon, who is meeting with leaders in China. Bush said Nixon has an "almost unique standing" with the Chinese leadership.

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## Caspian sea floods towns

The Caspian Sea has risen 1-1/2 metres (yards) in the last 10 years, flooding many coastal towns and baffling scientists, Tass reported yesterday.

The sea's level had dropped by three metres (yards) in the previous half-century, and short-sighted planners put up buildings in the areas where the waters had receded, the Soviet news agency said.

Scientists still cannot predict accurately what further changes there will be in the sea's level, Tass said, quoting Soviet water expert Georgi Sivoplas. (AP)

10 dead in rebel violence: Ten people died in scattered rebel violence, including eight people found shot in a small village near Huancayo Lima, Peru, police said yesterday. Police reports said the bodies of eight people, among them two high school girls, were found yesterday morning in a vacant lot near the main plaza of Pucara, a town four miles (seven kilometres) south of Huancayo in the Andes Mountains.

The victims were each shot several times in the head. Police blamed the murders on Shining Path rebels. (AP)

Human rights groups denounce: Americas Watch and two other prominent human rights groups on Saturday denounced slave-like work conditions of Haitian sugarcane cutters in the neighbouring Dominican Republic.

"Although slavery in the Dominican Republic was formally abolished over a century ago, Haitians in that country continue to be delivered at gunpoint to work on government plantations," said a report prepared by Americas Watch, the national coalition of Haitian refugees and Caribbean rights. The report was released yesterday.

At least 500,000 Haitians live in the Dominican Republic, a poor Caribbean nation that shares the island of Hispaniola with even poorer Haiti. (AP)

Ships collide: A Panamanian tanker, with 27,000 tonnes of oil on board has collided with a Liberian-registered bulk carrier in the English Channel, it was reported yesterday.

Both ships were damaged in the collision, some miles east of Deal Kent, southern England, but there were no injuries among the 48 people on board the two vessels.

Dover Lifeboat, near the area, was launched and five other ships were sent to the scene along with a rescue helicopter from the British Royal Air Force. (Kms)

Panama complains to UN: Panama complained to the United Nations yesterday about US military exercises in areas remote from zones designated to protect the Panama Canal.

The government put in a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, said 200 US soldiers on Oct 30 occupied the town of Gamboa near the capital, "with no explanation whatsoever."

The following day 200 marines entered the town of Arraijan and moved toward La Chorrera, Panama's third city, supported by light tanks, helicopters and combat planes, the letter said. (Reuters)

Salvador security on alert: Security forces stepped up patrols in and around San Salvador yesterday in the wake of one of the El Salvadoran capital's most violent weeks in recent years.

"The increase in military personnel is to prevent any terrorist attacks," said armed forces spokesman Major Mauricio Chavez Casacas. Tensions in the capital were strong following a week-long string of bombings and attacks that left 11 people dead and 50 injured, all of them civilians.

Leftist rebels and the government have blamed each other for the attacks. (UPI)

"Fergie" visits medical centre: The Duchess of York urged victims of Lou Gehrig's disease yesterday to remain strong and keep fighting, adding that she was very encouraged by the research she saw at hospitals in the Texas Medical Centre.

The wife of Britain's Prince Andrew, the former Sarah Ferguson better known as "Fergie," visited with doctors and patients at the Baylor College of Medicine-methodist hospital centre for victims of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease.

The Duchess also visited the institute for rehabilitation and research, which treats a variety of patients including those with neuromuscular disorders. (UPI)

Howard Rus dead: Dr Howard A. Rus, who pioneered rehabilitation techniques for the physically disabled, died yesterday of a stroke. He was 88.

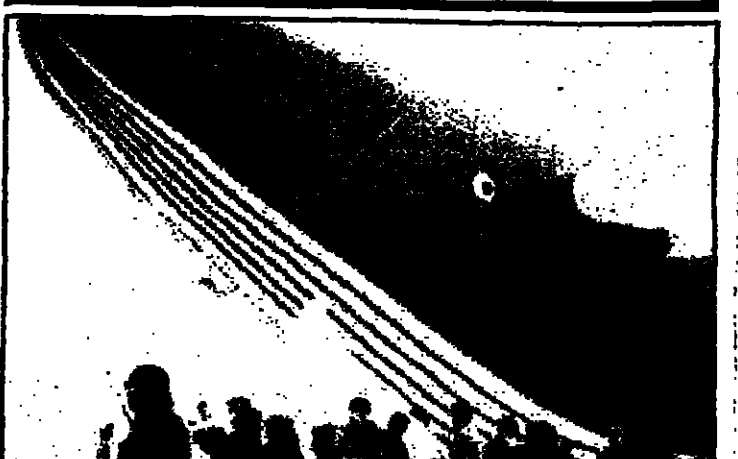
Rus died in a nursing home where he had been for three months. Rus developed rehabilitation techniques for airmen injured in World War II and his methods became standard medical practice throughout the world.

He proposed some of the techniques in a weekly column he wrote for the New York Times from 1946-1969. (AP)

Family pays ransom: The family of a Spanish bullfighting impresario kidnapped in Ecuador last August has paid a ransom of 500 million pesetas (\$4.3 million) to Colombian left-wing guerrillas, El Pais newspaper reported today.

The paper, quoting Spanish security sources, said Pablo Martin Bercoff's fans paid the ransom to the National Liberation Army (ELN) three weeks ago but was still waiting for news of his release.

Bercoff, who heads a Spanish-Ecuadorian group that manages the Quito bullring, was seized as he left his hotel on Aug 9. (Reuters)



## Protest against Japanese whaling

An inflatable whale looms over persons signing their names on an inflatable whale-calf to protest against Japanese whaling during demonstration in Washington by Greenpeace. The signed calf will tour 15 Japanese cities. (Reuters wirephoto)

## FBI will purge Cent Am protest files

WASHINGTON, Nov 5, (AP): The FBI says it will purge its files of thousands of names of people and organizations collected during its controversial investigation of citizens who protested US policy in Central America.

William S. Sessions, director of the US National Police Force, wrote to Congress last week of the plan to transfer records of the bureau's 1983-85 investigation of the Coalition in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (Cispe) to the national archives and records administration.

Sessions conceded last year that the FBI overstep-

ped its bounds by conducting domestic surveillance of political groups allied with Cispe.

Six supervisory-level agents were disciplined and the Senate Intelligence Committee sharply criticised the investigation, which took place under former FBI director William Webster, now head of the CIA.

"Clearly we see this as a major cave-in by the FBI and a real important victory in the fight against surveillance," said Michael Ratner, an attorney at the New York-based centre for constitutional rights.

## KGB: terror no more reigns

MOSCOW, Nov 5, (AP): The KGB chief acknowledged in a celebration of the Bolshevik Revolution yesterday the responsibility of secret police in Stalin's terror and vowed that such excesses would never happen again.

The speech by Vladimir A. Kryuchkov in a traditional Kremlin gathering ahead of Tuesday's celebration of the 1917 revolution was shown on national television.

It was another step in Kryuchkov's effort since becoming KGB chief a year ago to open the secret service partially and put its fearful reputation behind it. The speech kicked off a holiday celebration that will include the traditional military parade in Red Square that officials already have said will be more modest than in recent years.

Stalin's cult of personality distorted the institutions of Soviet power and law enforcement bodies, including state security organs, (and) were turned into a weapon of Stalin's arbitrary rule," Kryuchkov said. "There is no justification for the mass repression and cruelty often inflicted on behalf of the revolution, the party and the people," the KGB chief said.

"We bow our heads in memory of the innocent victims. This is a moral purification for us all and a guarantee that it will never happen again. Never."

The Stalin period of 1924-1953 now is widely criticised in the Soviet Union for the murder and imprisonment of millions of innocent citizens. The KGB has been among the last to acknowledge its part in the terror.

Since becoming head of the KGB on Oct. 1, 1988, Kryuchkov has pushed co-operation with foreign secret services on international terrorism and drug trafficking, granted interviews to Soviet and foreign press and allowed a government news agency to make a movie about his organisation. On Thursday, five KGB officers answered questions on a national TV call-in programme.

## East Germans pour over border for West

No trust in communist homeland

PRAGUE, Nov 5, (Agencies): More than 1,500 East Germans seeking to emigrate to the West arrived at Bonn's Prague embassy in the early hours today, unaware or not believing that Czechoslovakia had opened its borders to West Germany.

One special train with some 2,000 East Germans left Prague at noon and another 500 or so were waiting for the next train.

Many who had arrived at the embassy by car decided to drive on to the West after learning that the border was open to them. Relief workers said today's special trains would be the last and from tomorrow arrivals would have to go on regular trains.

By mid-day today the West German embassy in Prague was empty and relief workers had begun to disinfect the building, where some 21,000 refugees have camped over the past six weeks.

Most of those who had arrived said they had not heard, or did not believe, that Prague had thrown open its western border to them after an agreement with East Berlin.

More than 9,000 East Germans have already crossed the border into West Germany and a long queue of cars had built up at the Czechoslovak-West German border at dawn today as East Germans fled to the West in record numbers.

Meanwhile, young East German families squeezed into tiny sedans that streamed toward West Germany early today, abandoning a communist homeland in which they said they had lost trust.

East German Trabant cars arrived at the rate of 30 to 40 an hour at the Cheb border crossing, en route to Marktredwitz in West Germany's northern Bavaria state. Almost all of them were packed with young people in their 20s or early 30s, many with young children.

"We heard the news at 9 last night, and by 11 we were gone," said a 26-year-old woman from Schwerin, in the north of East Germany.

She, her husband, their two sons and a friend drove all night to Cheb, where they met several other families and young men, who like them, had leapt into their cars once they heard they could travel freely to West Germany for the first time in their lives.

"My friend woke me up at two in the morning," said a fresh-faced 21-year-old from Annaberg, close to the Czechoslovak border. "Here we are," he grinned.

The Communist Party leader in the East German city of Leipzig, where big demonstrations for democracy have occurred for the last six weeks, resigned on health grounds today, the official news agency ADN said.

Horst Schumann, 65, was the fourth of East Germany's 15 regional party leaders to quit in the last four days.



East German refugees carry their luggage as they walk by E. German cars queuing up at the Schirnding border crossing. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Disagreements split Hungarian party

BUDAPEST, Nov 5, (AP): Hungary's newly reformed Social Democratic Party yesterday split into two factions because of policy disagreements.

The Social Democrats are one of nearly two dozen new or reformed parties preparing to contest free national elections next year, which are to be the first since the communists consolidated power in 1948.

Leaders of the new faction, calling itself the "Independent Social Democratic Party," accused their rivals of bourgeois tendencies on the second day of a congress called to plan election strategies.

Spokeswoman Anna Petrasovits of the mainstream faction criticised the radicals, saying they sought alliances with "the East European left."

"We represent the (West) European left," she told Hungarian TV.

## Pace of reform a cause for worry

HAMBURG, West Germany, Nov 5, (Reuters): Polish trade union leader Lech Walesa said yesterday he was surprised by the pace of reform in communist East Germany and worried that changes were being made too fast.

Walesa also told a West German newspaper the division of Germany into East and West had to be removed but moves to achieve reunification should not be rushed.

"Here in Poland we had thought that the call for reforms in East Germany would get so loud much later and changes would come after that," Walesa told Bild Am Sonntag in an interview published today.

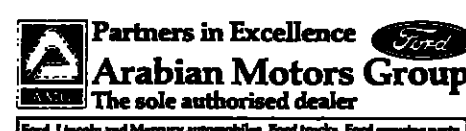
"Now it seems that East Germany has moved into third place after Hungary," Walesa said in the interview made available yesterday. "This worries me because what is done too quickly is dangerous."



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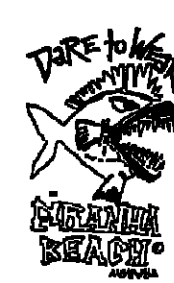
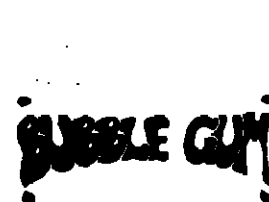
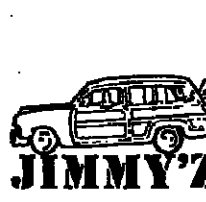
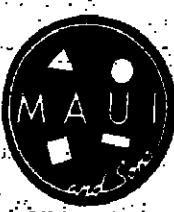
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# GCC information moot in Muscat

MUSCAT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Information ministers of the Arab Gulf states started their 13th meeting here today under the chairmanship of Omani Information Minister Abdul Aziz Al Rawas.

The ministers reviewed recommendations submitted to them by the experts committee, which met in Muscat last Sept 24 and 25.

The recommendations include holding culture activities each year in one of the member states.

The experts committee's recommendations include reprogramming cultural activities whereby they are held each year in member country, Gulf News Agency reported.

The cultural activities include child drawing exhibition, art and theatre festivals and formative art exhibition.

The conference brings together Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Kuwait's Acting Minister of Information and Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Al Ahmed in a statement underscored the media role in promoting ties of friendship and understanding among peoples of the region.

He also stressed the role played by media institutions and uninterrupted flow of information in reflecting the positive efforts aimed at national development and progress to the

outside world.

Sheikh Nasser is accompanied by a delegation comprising chairman and director-general of Kuwait News Agency Barges Hmoud Al Barges, Information Assistant Undersecretary for Press and Culture Hammad Al Roumy, Assistant Undersecretary for External Information Ridha Al Fidy and Editor of Al Arabi magazine Dr Mohammed Al Rumaihi.

The accompanying delegation also includes director-general of the joint TV programme production institution for Arabian Gulf states Abdul Wahab Al Sultan and senior officials of the Information Ministry.

## Salem to visit Finland

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah will pay a few days visit to Finland this month at the invitation of his Finnish counterpart Rantanen Jarmo, it was reported here yesterday.

Informed Interior Ministry sources told Kuwait News Agency that Sheikh Salem Al Sabah who will be accompanied by a specialised security delegation, will discuss during the visit, a number of issues on boosting bilateral relations in the security and police fields, civil defence telecommunications systems, and Finland's advanced expertise in this field.

The Finnish interior undersecretary paid a visit to Kuwait in December last year and he got acquainted with a number of the Interior Ministry's departments and held talks with senior officials.

## Top priority for Saudi ships

DAMMAM, Nov 5, (Kuna): The Ministry of Commerce has issued instructions to the Saudi importers to give top priority to the ships, tankers and containers of the Saudi Arabian National Shipping Company for transportation of their goods to the kingdom.

Director of the branches of the Saudi Arabian National Shipping Company in Dammam and Jubail Abdel Rahman Fahd Al Mayeoud said the instructions came in line with the directives of King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz and the policy of the kingdom to support all national sectors.

Al Mayeoud said steps have been taken to protect the rights of the Saudi importers against the preconditions made by some Far Eastern countries, particularly Japan and Korea, that stipulate either the use of their national lines or allied shipping companies in transportation of exported commodities.

Such preconditions make it difficult for the Saudi importers co-operate with the Saudi Arabian National Shipping Company, said Al Mayeoud.

The council of the Saudi Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been informed of the new regulations which are to be disseminated among the Saudi businessmen, Al Mayeoud said, noting that the Saudi officials are keen to extend every possible support to the Saudi Arabian National Shipping Company.

## Ministry may take over KISR

THE Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) may be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Council of Ministers to the Ministry for Higher Education, according to a local daily which quoted reliable sources.

The chairman of the board of trustees of KISR is now the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs.

The sources said that the charter of KISR did not state that KISR should be under the Council of Ministers because it was an independent organisation but should be headed by a minister selected by the government.

They added that the Minister

of Higher Education, Dr Ali Al-Shamlan, was likely to head the board of trustees when KISR joined the ministry.

The name of the ministry would then be changed to Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

The sources said it was likely that the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters would be connected with the Ministry of Information instead of the Council of Ministers as at present.

The council would be headed by the Information Minister, the sources said.

## Medicos meet today

ABOUT 1,000 physicians from Kuwait and elsewhere will attend the 8th medical conference organised by the Kuwait Medical Society.

The conference is being patronised by HH the Amir and opens today (Monday) at the Bayan Palace.

The secretary of the information committee for the conference, Dr Sami Al Sharawi said that the seminars and other activities would take place at Kuwait International Hotel.

Today's seminar will be about the ethics of the medical profession and on human rights.

He said that four sessions would be held to discuss drugs, children's diseases, sterility, test-tube babies, and eye, nose and ear diseases.

On Tuesday there will be a seminar on kidney stones and sessions on cancer, children's diseases, pregnancy and delivery problems, and venereal diseases.

The evening sessions would focus on training of physicians, heart diseases and children's diseases.

We said that similar seminars and sessions would be held on Wednesday.

The conference would end with a seminar on medical practice under the Israeli occupation in Palestine. A number of Palestinian doctors from the occupied territories as well as some Kuwaiti and other Arab doctors will take part. The seminar will be in Arabic and English.

# Legal Clinic



If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind. Send your questions to Arab Times, Legal Clinic. Our Kuwaiti lawyer Khaled Taber replies to readers queries. Write to Legal Clinic, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1983 as a driver in a private company. In 1984 I had a minor accident therefore the company deducted KD 375 from my salary. Shortly after, I again had an accident as someone dashed my back while crossing, so I was admitted for one month in the hospital. The owner of the company said I will get insurance and all hospital papers he took from me. After sometime in April he said there is no insurance for me.

In April 1989 I had a car accident while driving. The car was insured. All the papers were given to me by the police to claim the insurance. Now the company started deducting KD 30 every month from my salary.

IF THE person had a car accident and was responsible for that then he has to pay for the damage expense of the other party. These kinds of accidents are proved through police report and court judgement. The company can deduct from your salary because they found you responsible for that. The company has to pay the other party for the damage which you were responsible and then can deduct from your salary.

I AM on a dependent visa at the moment. I worked for a company one year on contract basis, so I transferred my residence. It was transferred back to dependent after the completion of the contract.

I had a case with law regarding the misuse of telephone in 1987. At the moment I am working in a company. I want to know if there will be any problems, other than being on dependent visa, to change my residence.

FIRST it is against the law to work while you are on a dependent visa. You should be working with a work visa No. 18. Regarding the misuse of telephone, if there is a court judgement against you for the first time, it will not be mentioned in the Good Conduct Certificate according to law No. 9/1971.

RECENTLY my services were terminated for five-day overstay in India (I got only 30 days holidays). I have completed only one year and five months with the present sponsor. I am staying with my family. I have a five-year-old son who is studying in school and his residence is endorsed in my passport. Since 1982 I am staying in Kuwait on visa No. 18. If I get a new job I can get a local transfer to the new sponsor.

Once I read in the newspaper — the company should not terminate any employee within the three-year period. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour has the right to transfer the residence to the new sponsor. Is it true? If not what is the way to change my residence?

My son's residence is endorsed in my passport and my wife's visa is No. 20 what should I do?

Any company has the right to terminate the services of any employee and also the employee has the right to resign any time. But regarding the transfer from one sponsor to another it should be after completing the period of three years with one sponsor.

You have to find a new sponsor who is willing to give you another visa No. 18. By then you can leave Kuwait and come back on the new visa provided by your new sponsor. Local transfer of residence cannot be done unless you completed the lapse of three years.

About your son whom you sponsor his visa will automatically expire because your visa was cancelled. It is better after you get the new visa stamped on your passport to change the visa of your son.

I AM an Indian working with a Kuwaiti family here. When I came back from holiday, I did not find my sponsor and his family in their old flat. Now I do not know where they are. I heard that my sponsor died, I am not sure. In this situation could you please give me the correct advice regarding the following:

How to find my sponsor? Does the death of sponsor affect the validity of residence of the employee, and what is the next procedure?

TO FIND the relatives of your sponsor is either through contacting the Public Authority for Civil Information (Paci). Your Civil ID can be submitted to Paci and they will provide you with the current address of the relatives of your sponsor. Or else you can go to the Immigration Department with your passport. The department through its computer can give you more details about their address. The death of your sponsor means that your residence is not valid. You can find another sponsor who is willing to provide you with new visa after solving your problem of the old residence, after approaching the Immigration Department.

Further procedures can be provided to you by the Immigration Department after paying the fine.

I WAS working in a private company as a secretary since 1982. As the salaries were pending for 6 to 8 months, I resigned in Dec 1988 and transferred my residence to another sponsor, where I am presently working. After a long waiting and several meetings, the old manager asked the accountant to finalise the dues and paid one instalment (four months before) i.e. 1/4 of the total dues. The manager all the time in telling come next week or next month. On my last telephone call with him he told me a different story that the repeated calls is disturbing him and he is not going to pay my dues. Finally he said he is going to file a case against me as there were some shortage in the inventory 2-3 years before (I was looking after a small store, as there was nobody to handle the store). This shortage was rectified long before and further years inventories always the stocks were showing more than the books value. Whenever I am asking for the balance dues he is refusing to pay and threatening that he is going to the lawyer for the shortage in the inventory.

YOU can file a case at the Ministry of Social Affairs (Investigation office) for your dues. It is better to find a new sponsor who will provide you with a new visa by which you can re-enter Kuwait and work.

You do not have to be afraid about these threats as long as the stocks showed more than the books value.

I AM an Indian who came to Kuwait first time in July, 1988 on visa No. 20. After I came my sponsor took from me nearly KD800. I have no proof that he took money from me but he did not put residence in the passport. After nine months my sponsor died. Then I did not know about my passport. At last I found my passport with one of his relatives without residence. Is there any fine to be paid if I joined another sponsor and what is the amount of the fine? I have no relatives here. Is there any way to make my residence without paying fine? Where I have to go and how to solve this problem?

FIRST you have to approach the Immigration Department, to know about the amount of the fine (for illegal stay in Kuwait without a residence). Also you can go and explain your problem at the Immigration Department where they can provide you with the information on what to do in your case.

WITH reference to the indemnity or end of service benefits, if I have worked for more than five years then resigned, I am entitled to get 7.5 days salary for the first five years and have a month salary for the following years. If I am terminated, I am entitled to two weeks salary for the first five years and one month salary for subsequent years of service.

Please clarify whether the indemnity is calculated on the present salary divided by 26 days or the present salary divided by 30 days. If I have any problem related to the above, whom should I contact?

THE indemnity is calculated on the present salary divided by 26 days. If you face any problem regarding the indemnity, you can approach the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

I AM 24 years old, Christian from India. I want to marry a 23 year old Muslim non-Kuwaiti girl, residing in Kuwait whom I know over two years. The problem is that obviously her parents do not agree to my convert to Islam and marry their daughter under current Kuwait laws as the rule says the guardians of both parties should be present as witnesses.

Kindly advise if there is any other way to process with this marriage legally or what does the law say if we get married outside Kuwait and return to legalise it?

IT IS prohibited for Muslim girl to marry a non-Muslim. But you have to get the approval of the girl's parents after you convert to Islam. Any marriage that takes place without the consent of the girl's parents is illegal. Such marriage if it took place abroad cannot be legalised in Kuwait.

I AM working in a semi-government company for the last two years. Due to the special nature of my work and the company's requirements, I have to work sometimes for up to 14 hours and on Fridays, without any written instruction or any sort of record. I am not paid for anything over the normal salary.

Through this column, I would like to know whether the company has a right to ask me to work after the normal hours and on Fridays without any written instruction and what can be the consequence if I refuse to do so, which is not mentioned in my contract. Moreover, please advise, if an accident happens during the extra working hours, can I claim an insurance compensation since there is no record to show that the accident happened while I was on duty?

EXTRA working hours have to be proved in order to claim for such payment. But if you worked voluntarily, you do not have the right to ask for such payment of overtime.

The company can not ask you to work extra hours without a written notice. You can prove it by witnesses that you worked overtime. You can ask for overtime payment as long as the company asked you through witnesses even if the company denied that. You can not claim an insurance as long as there is no prove that the accident happened while you were working during the extra working hours.

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# Appeal for firm stand against Israel

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): The Kuwaiti government today underscored the importance of the statement issued recently by HH the Amir and current Chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in respect of the brutal measures committed by the Zionist authorities in the occupied Arab lands.

A cabinet weekly session, held today under HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah, appealed for concerted Arab, Muslim and international efforts to take a firm stand against these Israeli attacks.

The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers also voiced hope that the next round of Turkish-Bulgarian talks, scheduled to convene

in Kuwait this month, would reach positive results and resolve the problem of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria.

Speaking following the regular session, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said the council was appraised at the outset of the two messages from Palestine President Yasser Arafat received by HH the Amir.

The messages, he explained, dealt with the repressive Israeli measures in the occupied Arab lands against Muslim sanctities, including laying of the cornerstone for rebuilding the Solomon Temple in the Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and the crimes committed by Zionist settlers against the Ibrahim Mosque in the city of Hebron.

Repeating the statement's condemnation of the Israeli provocative acts as a gross defiance of the entire Muslim feelings and a violation of international laws and norms, the Cabinet urged concerted Arab, Muslim and international efforts to adopt a resolute stance against these attacks in a manner matching with the international will of reaching peace and security in the area on the basis of guaranteeing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to establish their state and recover their sanctities.

The cabinet, according to the spokesman, was also informed on the message received by HH the Amir from Prime Minister of Lebanon Dr Salim Al Hoss detail-

ing ramifications of the tragic events of recent months in Lebanon and ways of helping victims of those events and alleviating their suffering.

Rashed added that HH the Crown Prince and Premier reported to the council of his inspection visit last week to Failaka island with the aim of acquainting himself with government projects and state services offered to the islanders.

The council also heard a report by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed on results of the Turkish-Bulgarian meeting, hosted by Kuwait at the initiative of HH the Amir, on the problem of the Muslim minority in Bulgaria.

## Pakistan minister tours KOC's Ahmadi HQ

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Pakistani Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Jehangir Bader today toured the Kuwait Oil Company's headquarters in Ahmadi city.

He was received on arrival by board chairman and managing director Abdul Malek Al Gharaballi.

The minister was accompan-

ied in his tour by assistant managing director for marketing at the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Abdullah Al Roumi and Pakistani ambassador to Kuwait Zaid Saeed Khan.

Jehangir was briefed on KOC's activities and inspected oil installations in Ahmadi after which he visited Mina Abdullah

refinery, an affiliate of the Kuwait National Petroleum Company.

## Hungarian minister

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Hungarian Trade Minister Dr Tamas Bek is scheduled to arrive here tomorrow on a four-day official visit to Kuwait.

## Yugoslav Week in Kuwait

By Jadranka Porter

SCORES of Yugoslav businessmen, bankers, food producers, fashion models and travel agents will converge on Kuwait next week to show their wares and skills in Belgrade's largest promotion in the Gulf state for many years.

The Yugoslav Week which opens on Nov 11 at the Regency Palace hotel will feature a trade exhibition, three fashion shows and a piano concert by Kemal Gekic, one of Yugoslavia's most talented pianists.

Some 50 Yugoslav firms ranging from construction companies to textile manufacturers will be represented at the trade show with a view to gaining a share of the Kuwaiti market.

Yugoslav bankers will give a talk on foreign investment opportunities in Yugoslavia while representatives of six construction firms, all of which have worked in Kuwait, will discuss civil engineering projects they are capable of carrying out.

The fashion shows will focus on Yugoslav-made leather outfits that have won acclaim at a recent display in Paris.

Away from the commercial scene Kemal Gekic will present another face of Yugoslavia in a concert on Nov 13. He returns to Kuwait after two concerts last January to play Chopin and Liszt, the two composers who with Gekic's temperament and style have become at new wave.

On the occasion of the four-day exhibition of Yugoslav tapestries opened Saturday at the SAS hotel showing that the centuries-old art is still alive in Yugoslav villages.



Kemal: talented

## Maid's cruelty

A FIVE-MONTH-OLD baby suffered first and second degree burns after a maid poured hot water on her.

A Kuwaiti, Azab K., reported to the Firdous police station that his maid, 20, had poured hot water on his child Reem, the public relations department of the Interior Ministry said.

It added that the maid had been referred to the concerned authorities for investigation.

## Sales allowed

FIFTEEN companies have been allowed by the Ministry of Commerce to hold sales during this month. Five companies are in Kuwait, seven in Hawalli and three in Fahahel.

A local daily said that most of these companies dealt in electrical appliances, carpets, furniture and leather goods.

The ministry permission required the companies to give at least a 20 per cent reduction on the usual price.

## Experts meet on desalination cost

Five-day conference opens

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (AP): Kuwait, part of an arid region that depends heavily on water desalination plants, today opened an international conference to focus on reducing related cost and pollution impact.

More than 500 specialists from five continents were invited to the 5-day conference under the auspices of His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah. It is the fourth gathering of its type to be organised by the Washington-based International Desalination Association.

"This gathering should have special significance because it is taking place in an area that depends almost entirely on desalination to provide its water needs," said Kuwaiti Minister of Electricity and Water Homoud Al Roqba in an inaugural speech.

"When you selected Kuwait ... you emphasised the keenness of the desalination community to highlight the significant role and the necessity to continue development of desalination technologies for the supply of the main element of life in this part of the world," he said.

Kuwait and its partners in the Gulf Co-operation Council depend on desalination for meeting almost all their water needs. They have directed their oil wealth to spurring desalination plants along the Gulf coast with a combined capacity of more than one billion gallons per day.

Half the potential is in Saudi Arabia alone, with the kingdom also exploiting its Red Sea coast for the purpose.

Kuwait has six desalination plants with a total capacity of more than 250 million gallons per day. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are the leading members of the GCC which also includes Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

In pre-oil days, the region depended on artesian wells, but the main reserve is threatened with depletion.

Kuwait has signed an agreement with Iraq to build a water pipeline that carries Iraqi water from Shatt Al Arab waterway to meet part of the country's consumption and agricultural needs.

Adil Bushnak, president of the International Desalination Association, stressed the economic and financial aspects of desalination technology in the coming decade.

"The 1990's will certainly demand good management and innovative solutions to prosper in an increasingly competitive world," he told the conference.

"The major challenge of the next decade in desalination is probably non-technical but financial and economic. Innovative funding and finance alternatives must be developed."

Previous similar congresses were held in Florence, Bermuda and Cannes in 1983, 1985 and 1987.



Singapore trade mission

Singapore had a 1.995 billion Singapore dollars trade with Kuwait last year, and the Singapore trade mission presently in Kuwait, is seeking to improve the volume of trade and investment opportunities. The deputy mission leader Shabbir H. Hassanbhai said that Singapore was eager to expand its trade with Kuwait. The delegation which arrived on Nov 3, met Kuwaiti officials and businessmen. Singapore exports jewellery, computers, electronic goods, machinery and timber to Kuwait. Picture shows a delegation member speaking about some samples to a prospective customer in Kuwait.

## Four years jail for bootlegger

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court sentenced a man to four years' rigorous imprisonment to be followed by deportation for attempting to smuggle liquor into the country. He was also fined KD 200 and his car was confiscated.

The court was told that the man had been seized at Abdali border centre after customs inspectors found 35 bottles of whiskey hidden in different parts of the car.

The court rejected the defence of the defendant who claimed that a government employee had asked him to bring liquor and had paid him the cost in advance. He added that the employee had promised to facilitate smuggling of the liquor but did not do so.

The inspector who arrested the defendant said he had admitted smuggling liquor for selling in Kuwait.

Two Kuwaitis have been arrested for trading in hashish by securitymen of the Capital Governorate. The two men, Nedai A. and Meshari F. were seen selling the hashish. They sped away in their car but the securitymen chased and caught them. They were found to possess narcotics.

A six-year-old Kuwaiti boy died by drowning in a pool at a private farm, the public relations department of Kuwait's Interior Ministry said.

A non-Kuwaiti, Ashour S., informed the Jahra police station that he found his wife dead when he returned to their home in Jahra. The medical report said the woman had some bruises on her hands.

## Kuwait among first to pay fund for uprising

CAIRO, Nov 5, (Kuna): Board chairman of the Palestinian National Fund Jawid Al Ghossein said here today that Kuwait was among the first Arab countries to abide by its financial obligations towards the Palestinian uprising.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency Ghossein said Kuwait has been regularly paying its quotas determined by the Arab summit conference in Algeria which amounts to \$2 million per month in addition to other two millions in food aid to the Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates also paid their quotas, he added.

Libya, he said, paid \$5 million per month and halted its contribution after paying seven instalments.

Ghossein appealed to the Arab countries to stick to their pledges and resolutions which they endorsed at the Algeria and Casablanca Arab summits.

The Israeli occupation troops have confiscated a \$5 million worth of furniture, cars and electrical appliances from the Palestinians in Beit Sahour which they held under siege for over a month, he said.

Ghossein attended the meetings here of the PLO Executive Committee and the Palestinian National Fund.

## CANADA

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## EMBASSY OF INDIA KUWAIT

TWO Indian Naval Ships — INS GOMATI, a frigate and INS SHAKTI — a tanker are scheduled to pay a goodwill visit to the State of Kuwait from November 9 to November 13, 1989. The ships will be berthed at Shurwaikh Sea Port and will be open to visit by members of the public on Thursday, November 9, 1989 from 2 pm to 5 pm and on Friday, November 10, 1989 from 8.30 am to 1.30 pm. Entry passes for 9th November 1989 as well as for 10th November 1989 can be collected from the Embassy of India, 34-Shara Istiqlal, Bousheri Building, Kuwait on Monday, November 6, 1989 from 9 am to 5 pm. Entry passes for November 10, 1989 only can also be had from the Embassy on Tuesday, November 7, 1989 between 9 am and 2 pm.

## Austria denies joining EEC

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Austrian Defence Minister Robert Lichal was quoted here today as saying that his country is not only politically neutral but also militarily.

He added that Vienna sells arms only to countries that are not involved in wars, which is the reason behind the resignation of the defence minister in 1977 after he sanctioned an arms deal with a Middle East country, he noted.

In an exclusive interview with a local daily, Lichal denied that efforts of his country to join the European Economic Community (EEC) had upset the Soviet Union or other socialist bloc countries.

Lichal cited a recent statement by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during a visit to Finland in which he said every country has the freedom to join any group it wishes.

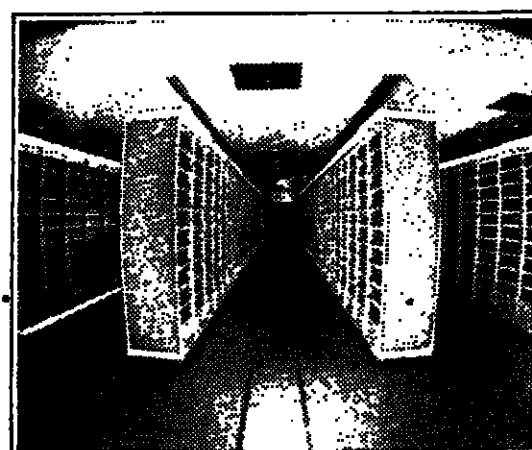
Lichal added that there are two points to have in mind concerning the selling of arms factories, the first is that the sales of these plants should not violate any international laws and the other is to make sure the Austrian army has adequate amount of arms before selling any factories.

Lichal also denied that there was any foreign investment in his country's arms industry but he said there might be in the future.

Lichal is due to visit Bahrain and Qatar in his current Gulf tour.

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

FOR precocity some great price is always demanded sooner or later in life — Margaret Fuller, US poet-writer (1817-1854).

## Philippines today

## Nation still in trouble

NEARLY four years ago, Corazon Aquino stood before television cameras and proclaimed that a "dark night of tyranny" had come to an end in the Philippines.

Ferdinand Marcos and his wife, Imelda, had been driven into exile in Hawaii by the "people power revolution" that brought Aquino to power.

The "night of tyranny" she referred to in taking her oath as president on Feb 25, 1986, may have ended, but poverty, insurgency, crime and social inequities remain.

Aquino arrives in the United States on Tuesday, after visiting Canada, in search of more trade and investment in the Philippines to cope with those problems at home.

But the struggle to deal with economic problems, armed insurgencies and coup attempts has sapped the euphoria and political vitality that in 1986 drove Marcos to Hawaii, where he died Sept 28, and vaulted Aquino to the presidency.

Recently, the social weather stations polling service said only 35 per cent of 300 Manilans surveyed were satisfied with Aquino, down from a high of 77 per cent two years ago.

Inflation today is 12 per cent. Allegations of corruption abound.

Cardinal Jaime L. Sin, the Roman Catholic Archbishop and the nation's leading churchman, often comments that Filipinos rid themselves of "Ali Baba, but the 40 thieves remain." By Ali Baba he means Marcos.

"Because of poverty and lack of education, people end up being victims of injustice," said Luis Villafuerte, chairman of the Governors League of the Philippines. "If you cannot improve that situation, you can say you have a democracy, you have elections, you have a Congress, but it means nothing to people who are poor and suffering."

Human rights abuses continue, as do killings by communist insurgents.

Filipinos are threatened by rising crime, much of it committed by police and soldiers. Police say the crime rate has increased by 6.5 per cent since Aquino took office.

But no groundswell of opposition appears to be building against Aquino, often known affectionately as Cory.

Attempts by the left and right to organise street demonstrations have largely fizzled.

Aquino can point to significant accomplishments. She has restored democratic institutions, unshackled the press and held back communist and Muslim insurgents.

The economy has grown steadily and is expected to increase by about 6 per cent this year. But economic gains have mostly benefited upper middle class entrepreneurs.

Government figures indicate the lowest third of society controls only 9 per cent of the national income, virtually the same as under Marcos. Millions subsist on incomes barely adequate for food and lodging.

Among those millions is Aurora Mendoza, who supports an unemployed husband and two children on a monthly salary of 1,543 pesos (\$73 and 50 cents) as a clerk in the education department.

Her expenses average about 2,925 pesos (\$139.30 cents) a month, she said. She makes up the difference by borrowing money from colleagues. Others like her supplement their salaries by selling home-grown foods or other to fellow office workers.

In Manila, wealthy Filipinos live in spacious homes in plush, well-guarded "villages." But government figures indicate that Filipinos in 25 of the 73 provinces receive few state services.

In Sulu, a largely Muslim province 65 kilometres (600 miles) south of Manila, 133 of every 1,000 infants die before their first birthday. Life expectancy for males in Basilan province is 52.9 years — 10 years below the national average.

"There is always the expectation of better things," Aquino said in a recent interview with the Associated Press. "And there have been better things. But I suppose what people would like is for all these good things to happen yesterday."

Aquino, who is US-educated and a member of a wealthy family, did not set out to recast Philippine society but to restore the institutions that the Marcos years had destroyed or corrupted.

Here was to be an "institutional revolution," the success or failure of which would show whether US style democracy can work in a poor country.

But those values were imposed on an Asian society in which family ties, paternalism and respect for authority sometimes lead to nepotism, corruption and entrenched "warlord" families.

Longtime colonial domination — first by Spaniards, then by Americans — established a tradition of armed struggle such as the 20-year-old communist insurgency and the Muslims revolt that flares and subsides.

Colonialism also produced a class of landed elite, which prospered through war, revolution, dictatorship and democracy. Many of the old families — the Laurels, the Lopezes, the Cojuangcos, the Aquinos — were at the forefront of the anti-Marcos campaign.

Early in her administration, Aquino tried to pursue reformist goals. Her fledgling steps faltered with the rise of military influence and the emergence of powerful political clans.

Aquino freed 300 political prisoners and offered peace talks to communist and Muslim rebels. Her first human rights commissioner, the late Jose Diokno, promised to prosecute soldiers for human rights abuses committed under Marcos. (Manila — AP).

## No agenda set and no deals to be settled

## Cold war left behind

AS US President George Bush sees it, his "floating chat" with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev will carry a built-in guarantee with no agenda to be met and no deals to be settled, the meeting can hardly be judged anything but a success unless somebody jumps ship.

While both presidents are supposed to be committed to staying aboard with an informal, free-form format, the Soviet side does seem to have some bigger ideas, suggesting the meetings Dec 2-3 might end the cold war.

That's rhetoric, but it collides with the White House effort to keep the profile of the "non-summit summit" just above the water line. Bush and his spokesmen want expectations held to a minimum.

At the last superpower meeting comparable to this one, Gorbachev startled then-president Ronald Reagan by proposing drastic cuts in nuclear weapons. The current administration doesn't want a replay.

Bush, who issued the handwritten invitation as he flew home from Eastern Europe on July 18, said that he thinks the meetings will be productive but that nobody expects substantial decisions or agreements to emerge.

By those ground rules, both leaders could go ashore declaring they have met their objectives, done what they came to do. For both, that would help at home.

Bush already is using the meeting he initiated in rebuttal to the critics who say he has faltered in dealing with the political and economic upheavals in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev is struggling with economic crises at home and with the drastic changes that are turning what were satellite states toward democracy and free enterprise. Even a general assurance of economic co-operation, and a hint that trade restrictions could be relaxed, would be a lift as he heads into a difficult winter. So will the stress on foreign affairs and superpower relations, strong points in contrast to the budget woes, food shortages, unemployment and strikes besetting the Soviet economy.

Bush said he expects a lot of discussion of the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe, in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and most recently, East Germany.

In a way, that is a breakthrough. For nearly 45 years, Soviet leaders considered Eastern Europe their business, not a topic for a summit discussion. Now Gorbachev may want some assurance that the West will not push too hard, or seek strategic military advantage in what is happening there.

Indeed, Bush said the rapidity of change in Eastern Europe was one of the things that led him to change his mind about the right time and format for his first presidential meeting with Gorbachev. "I just didn't want to, in this time of dynamic change, miss something, something that I might get better first hand from Mr. Gorbachev," he said on Tuesday as he announced the meetings.



Mikhail Gorbachev



George Bush

Nevertheless, there are risks in an unstructured meeting of superpower leaders, even to get acquainted.

There are those who hold that the Soviet miscalculations behind the 1962 Cuban missile crisis took root when Nikita S. Khrushchev and president John F. Kennedy met in Vienna, Austria, in 1961.

Bush and Gorbachev have met before, most recently when Bush was president-elect. But since then, and until the surprise announcement last Tuesday, Bush had said he wasn't going to rush to the summit, and didn't want to meet for the sake of meeting. Next year's arms control summit was arranged in September.

When Reagan met with Gorbachev at Reykjavik, Iceland, just over three years ago, in what was supposed to be a preliminary meeting to an arms control summit, the two leaders wound up talking about elimination of all nuclear weapons, then quit in discord over the US space defence programme.

Bush dismissed any comparison with Iceland, saying this isn't to be an arms control meeting, or a

summit at all. That comes next spring or summer, in the United States.

But when the superpower leaders meet it is a parley at the summit, in Winston Churchill's phrase, no matter what anyone wants it called. And such a meeting creates, unavoidably, the pressure of expectations that the two presidents will come away having accomplished something more than a meeting.

Summit take on a definition, an expectation of grand design and grand agreements, and that's not what this is," Bush said. He said the shipboard setting will cut down on the fanfare, the pressures, the crush of people.

But all those trappings go with a summit, and this one will have them, no matter what it's called. They'll just be a little farther away, in port while the two presidents are talking during their weekend at sea.

That's as inevitable as the expectation of measurable progress, at least of momentum toward grand agreements at the summer summit next year.

## Benazir seeks friends among foes

PAKISTANI Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto is searching for friends among her political foes after surviving the most serious challenge to her 11-month minority government.

The first elected woman leader of a Muslim country is ready to invite into the cabinet opposition deputies prepared to help her defeat what she calls "remnants of dictatorship," a reference to hardline followers of the late army ruler General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

"My doors are open for political conciliation with all political forces," she told reporters on Saturday. It was her second appeal to her opponents since an opposition no-confidence motion to unseat her failed last Wednesday in parliament.

Interior Minister Aitzaz Ahsan said on Saturday opposition deputies may soon be invited to join the cabinet. It was not immediately clear how many would be brought in and whether any existing cabinet members would be replaced.

Benazir, who is 36 and expecting her second child, said last Sunday she could take on 10 more ministers. She currently has 21 cabinet ministers, six advisers of ministerial rank and 21 deputy ministers.

"Between the ruling party and the hardcore opposition lies a vast neutral ground where sensible political tactics can yield handsome dividends," commented I.A. Rehman, editor of the government daily, the Pakistan Times.

There have been signs that opposition politicians may be ready to join forces with the prime minister, who has spent much of her 11 months in power bogged down in political fighting with the opposition.

After a lunch with Benazir to celebrate her triumph in the no-confidence vote, one opposition member of the upper house pledged to support "every democratic action" of the government.



Benazir Bhutto

The opposition fell 12 votes short of the 119 they needed to unseat Benazir after introducing the no-confidence motion in the 237-seat national assembly, or lower house.

Some of the five deputies from the combined opposition parties (COP) who refused to join 107

who voted for the motion are likely new ministers. The COP groups some 15 parties ranging from Islamic fundamentalists to pro-Soviet leftists and is dominated by Zia followers.

COP deputies plan to meet in Quetta on Wednesday to plan strategy. The opposition has said it could bring another no-confidence motion against what it calls a corrupt government.

A meeting of the parliamentary wing of the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP) on Thursday accused ministers of being inaccessible, according to party sources. It criticised the dominant role of unelected aides to Benazir.

"We have assessed our performance and weaknesses and will seriously try not to repeat mistakes," Aitzaz told reporters on Saturday.

The Islamabad independent newspaper, the Muslim, commented: "A shedding of some of the non-elected baggage and correcting some of the outstanding anomalies in ministerial offices might just be the panacea that will help the government recover its health."

Bhutto's entire record of government has been attacked by the opposition since she took office last November after Pakistan's first party-based elections in 11 years.

She has been criticised for accepting an International Monetary Fund programme for financial management, rejoining the Commonwealth and for allowing women to compete in the recent South Asian games in Islamabad.

Both sides have accused each other of harassing and bribing deputies to boost their parliamentary support, drawing widespread criticism of political horse-trading.

Benazir's main rival, Punjab province Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif, condemned Benazir for betraying Pakistan's Islamic principles.

## East Germany allows its citizens free departure

## Decision nullifies effect of Berlin Wall

EAST GERMANY's decision to allow its citizens free departure to the West through Czechoslovakia at least temporarily nullifies the effect of the Berlin Wall, built 28 years ago to stem an earlier exodus.

The dramatic announcement is the latest in a series of developments that have allowed thousands to surmount the infamous barriers separating the two Germans.

The East German leadership has agreed before to allow smaller numbers of refugees to leave via West Germany's embassies in Warsaw and Prague. But Friday's decision literally allows any East German to leave by heading for Czechoslovakia.

East Germans need no exit visas to travel to Czechoslovakia, the only country they can visit freely.

In September, Hungary broke a treaty with East Germany and allowed East German refugees passage to the West over its border with Austria.

The move was criticized sharply by the former hard-line government in East Berlin.

Thousands of East Germans, uncertain of the new communist leadership's commitment to change, have ignored official pleas to stay and take advantage of the newly opened escape route.

"The Wall has a big hole in it now," shouted a jubilant East German in Prague on Saturday.

East Germany's new communist leader, Egon Krenz, has said the Berlin Wall has not lost its importance. But his government's sanction of the exodus through Czechoslovakia and a proposed new travel law virtually eliminated the need to risk

daring escapes over the Wall or other heavily fortified barriers.

Krenz, during a visit to Moscow last week, reiterated the longstanding view of East German communists that the Berlin Wall has helped keep the peace in Europe and has protected East Germany from "capitalist plundering."

The Wall, he said, "is not a border between two states... it's a border between two social systems, a border between two military blocs and... a border in the vicinity of which are a great concentration of weapons."

But Johannes Chemnitz, mayor of Neubrandenburg, said earlier during a visit to West Germany that the opening of borders by other Soviet bloc countries made the wall's significance "limited and illusory."

Stefan Heym, one of East Germany's most prominent writers, last week called on the leadership to transform the barrier "into a normal customs border."

Peter Mugay, a member of East Berlin's city government, wrote Friday in the local newspaper *Neuzeit*: "I see the wall as an obstacle to movement of people and, as such, an anachronism. But at the same time it remains a needed barrier against Western neo-fascism, drugs and pornography."

East Germany built the Berlin Wall on Aug 13, 1961, to stop an exodus of skilled workers and intellectuals to the West. The 1,400-kilometre (840-mile) border with West Germany also was sealed.

Since then, according to West German statistics,

East German border guards have shot and killed almost 200 attempting to flee.

Krenz has moved quickly to address one of the bitterest complaints of East Germans — rigid travel restrictions — since his Oct 18 ouster of hardliner Erich Honecker.

He has promised a new law by year's end to allow all East Germans greater freedom to travel to the West.

The government also announced a general amnesty for all those jailed for attempting escapes and for those who have left the country illegally.

Tens of thousands of East Germans have fled West over Hungary's recently opened border to the West, or after seeking refuge in Bonn's diplomatic missions in Poland and Czechoslovakia. The amnesty allows those who want to return home to do so without facing repercussions.

The exodus West already is severely straining the East German economy, which suffered a manpower shortage even before the flights began.

East Berlin officials have not said how long the Czechoslovak border to West Germany will be open to East Germans.

Communist Party sources privately say the new tolerance is aimed in part at luring back many who have fled.

In a dramatic appeal televi d Friday night, Krenz appealed to East German to be patient and wait for reforms to take hold.

"Trust our policy of renewal," he said. "Your place, dear fellow citizens, is here. We need you."

## Letters to the editor

## Konkani drama

SIR: November 2, was for Catholics all over the world, the "All Souls Day," a special day to commemorate the deceased. It is shocking and revolting that a prominent organisation like The New Goans Overseas Association, Kuwait, actually held a Konkani drama starring famous Goan artists like M. Boyer, Rennie Colaco, Jacinto Vaz and Betty Naz on that particular day.

Can any of the luminaries of the association kindly explain through the columns of the Arab Times, why this event was not held on some other day to avoid offending the sentiments of devout Catholics in Kuwait?

Tony M. Fernandes, Safat.

New Goans Overseas Association president Fidelis Fernandes and director of the drama "Chintna Zallim Sopnam" M. Boyer comment: "We had announced the date of the drama one year in advance, not realising that Nov 2 was All Souls' Day. Moreover nobody brought this to our attention before the show. We would have gladly changed the date of the drama."

ALL letters to the Editors must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the edition process for space or other reasons.

## Easy answers to market tumble

YOU ask the hard questions, and I'll give you the easy answers as to why the stock market just took a tumble.

"Why did it?"

"The prevailing wisdom is that the people trying to buy United Airlines couldn't get the financing they needed."

"What the bleep has that got to do with the stock market?"

"You will have to remain civilized if you want me to answer your questions. It all started when Marvin Davis, the billionaire, who used to own 20th Century-Fox, tried to buy Northwest Airlines. He was unsuccessful, so he decided that he would grab control of United Airlines instead. The management of UAL hated the idea so much that it got together with the airlines' pilots and announced that they were purchasing the company. The price offered was \$7 billion."

"Did they have \$7 billion?"

"If you're going to ask stupid questions, I'll discontinue this briefing. Of course they didn't have \$7 billion. They didn't even have 7 billion baggage claim checks. Like everybody else they planned to go into the junk bond market and raise the money."

"This is the way the system works. You acquire a profitable company you don't own with money that isn't yours and drive it into the ground by paying unbelievable interest rates that you cannot afford."

"So what happened when the people who wanted to buy UAL couldn't get their \$7 billion?"

"The word was immediately flashed to Wall Street that United Airlines was not flying in very friendly skies. A 24-year-old Wall Street trader named Sidney, fresh out of Wharton, saw the flash. He told his superior, Gloria, aged 21, that he was worried because if UAL raiders couldn't get a lousy \$7 billion loan in junk bonds, it meant the entire market was weaker than his assistants, Larry, 22, and George 23, had been forecasting. Gloria panicked and ordered Sidney to sell \$5 billion worth of securities which they were holding for the Septic Tank Workers' Pension Fund."

"How did Sidney do it?"

"He pushed a button marked SELL on his computer, which lit up every pinball machine in America."

"It was Sidney who started the panic?"

"No, but he anticipated one. Everybody expects the market to either go up or down. They pay Sidney \$1 million to know this. They also expect him to be aware that the people who deal with the financial fortunes of the country panic easily — if it isn't Braniff Airlines today, it's United Airlines tomorrow."

"So Sidney sold his securities. What did he do with the money?"

"He bought stocks of other companies that Marvin Davis hinted he might be pursuing in the next two weeks." — "And those stocks went up?"

"No, they went down."

"Why was that?"

"I told you, dummy, because no matter what happened in the market, it all boiled down to the fact that United Airlines could not raise \$7 billion. What makes this all so sad is that it could signal the end of junk bonds as we know them."

"You mean the takeover moguls will no longer be able to acquire healthy companies with other people's money and turn them into debt-ridden cripples?"

"I'm afraid so. We have a new saying on Wall Street, 'When Marvin Davis sneezes, the Japanese yen catches pneumonia.'"

1989, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

## Quote me

"He's been like that for 10 years. He's better than he was but not the way he should be. I have difficulty understanding what he's doing on court and why he's doing it. But it's part of John McEnroe. If you asked him to be completely quiet, he probably wouldn't play that sort of tennis. Every time we play we have close matches. I know I have to play great to beat him and he knows the same thing." — Boris Becker dismissing McEnroe's behaviour during the match.

"The Soviet Union has never experienced anything like it. Neither have I." — Singer Jon Bon Jovi on the Moscow Music Peace Festival.

"I like to win my bets. When I win, a lot of the time I give the money to my wife, Carol. You know Carol. You know how beautiful she is. Well, there's one other thing Carol is. She's a shopping addict. I get some pleasure setting her loose in a mall."

Former Cincinnati Reds manager Pete giving his reasons for gambling.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1632 — Sweden's King Gustavus II is killed in action at battle of Lutzen.

1846 — Austria annexes Cracow Republic, violating Treaty of Vienna.

1936 — Siege of Madrid begins, and Spanish government moves to Valencia in civil war.

1937 — Italy joins German-Japanese anti-Comintern Pact.

1942 — Tidal Wave kills 10,000 people in Bengal, India.

1962 — UN General Assembly calls for economic sanctions against South Africa because of its racial policies.

1968 — Vietnam peace talks begin in Paris.

1970 — Italy formally recognizes China.

1971 — World synod of Roman Catholic Bishops ends stormy meeting at Vatican, deeply divided on question of whether married men may become priests.

1974 — Soviet Union calls for Palestinian statehood as part of any Middle East settlement.

1976 — Guerrilla warfare in Rhodesia is endorsed by leaders of neighbouring black countries at meeting in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

1977 — Dam collapses drowns at least 38 people as wall of water surges trailer camp outside town of Toccoa in US state of Georgia.

1986 — Helicopter ferrying oil workers from offshore rigs crashes in North Sea off Scotland, and 45 people are feared dead.

1987 — UN secretary-general announces significantly broader access by governments and individuals to Nazi war crime archives.

1988 — Israeli helicopter gunships rocket Palestinian commando strongholds near southern Lebanese port of Sidon.

1550 م 1450



# Pan Am bomb originated in Cyprus

LONDON, Nov 5. (AP) A British newspaper, reported today that the bomb that destroyed Pan Am Flight 103 apparently began its journey in Cyprus, in a suitcase loaded onto a Cyprus Airways jet in Larnaca airport.

The Sunday Correspondent claimed investigators have largely discounted theories widely publicised last week that the bomb was put on board an Air Malta flight on the tiny Mediterranean island before being transferred to the Pan Am.

Flight 103 originated in Frankfurt, West Germany, taking on passengers and luggage flown in from other areas on international "feeder flights."

The passengers and bags were transferred at London's Heathrow airport to the Boeing 747, which was ripped apart in flight over Lockerbie, Scotland, on Dec 21, killing all 259 people on board and 11 on the ground.

Citing unidentified police sources, the weekly said the bomb apparently was placed in one of several suitcases placed aboard one of two feeder flights from Cyprus to Frankfurt — either Cyprus Airways' Flight 504 or Flight 1364.

The newspaper said at least four US intelligence agents who died on board Flight 103 boarded the feeder flights in Larnaca. It said three of the agents were reported to have been returning from an undercover mission believed to be connected with the US hostages in Lebanon.

The newspaper said investigators suspect that a suitcase belonging to one of the agents was substituted at Larnaca airport for the suitcase containing the bomb.

Another British weekly, the Sunday Times, which last week reported evidence of a Maltese connection, alleged today that British police believe the bomb was first assembled in a Frankfurt apartment by Marwan Khreaji, a Jordanian bomb-maker recruited by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

# New Democracy leading the race

## Heavy turnout in Greece polls

ATHENS, Nov 5. (Agencies) The conservative New Democracy Party jumped out to an early lead today in national elections, raising the possibility it could win a majority and end an eight-year era of government by Greece's Socialists.

With 16.9 per cent of the vote counted, the party, led by Constantine Mitsotakis, had 47.9 per cent. It was followed by former premier Andreas Papandreu's Panhellenic Socialist Movement with 40.1 per cent and the communist-led coalition of the left and progress with 9.8 per cent, according to official returns broadcast by state television.

The elections were Greece's second in five months and came after the

country's biggest political impasse since the end of a military dictatorship 15 years ago.

Despite New Democracy's lead, there was still a possibility the party could be denied a majority in the 300-seat, single-chamber Parliament, as it was in June.

If that happened, tough negotiations would open among the leading parties, which are widely divided over such major issues as economic policy and the presence of US military bases in Greece.

Papandreu's party did not appear to be damaged by its leader's indictment on corruption charges in September.



Papandreu accompanied by his wife Dimitra Liani waves to supporters outside a polling station. (Reuters wirephoto)

Nikos Themelis, minister of the premier's office, said "minor problems and incidents occurred" during the voting, "but none of them cast a shadow over the festivity of democracy," at the polls.

Over eight million voters were eligible to cast their ballot at 16,500 polling stations. Officials said the turnout was heavy.

Pre-election opinion polls indicated New Democracy led by Constantine Mitsotakis was leading but might not win a majority in the 300-seat single-chamber parliament.

If no one gets a majority, tough negotiations would open among the leading parties, which are widely divided over such major issues as economic policy and the presence of US military bases in Greece.

Pasok, was also expected to make a strong showing today — even though its leader, former premier Andreas Papandreu, was running while under indictment on corruption charges.

Greece's third big party, the communist-led coalition of the left and progress, could emerge as the kingmaker.

Voting proceeded calmly under sunny skies. In Athens, motorists waving green Pasok banners or blue-and-white New Democracy flags sped through the central Syntagma Square, leaning on their horns.

Only one voting irregularity was reported. The spokesman for the caretaker government, Nikos Themelis, said authorities were investigating a report that Pasok supporters prevented an unknown number of sailors on two ships from disembarking to vote on the southeastern Aegean island of Kalymnos.

Polls were open from sunrise to sunset, 6.45 am to 5.23 pm (0445-1523 GMT), with voting compulsory for the estimated eight million citizens aged 18 and over. Final results were not likely before Monday afternoon but a significant percentage of returns was expected by early Monday.

Elections came only five months after the last national poll. The June 18 vote produced no majority, but the communist-led coalition agreed to team with its enemies, the conservatives, in a short-term government dedicated only to investigating the scandals that dogged the final years of the 1981-89 Pasok administration.

The coalition government resigned last month after indicting Papandreu on charges of involvement in a multi-million-dollar banking scandal and of ordering wiretapping of the telephones of his friends and foes.

# Butchers of Belfast 'Taig'... you're hit

BELFAST, Nov 5. (Reuters) Eyes in Northern Ireland's over-flowing annals of barbarity, the Shankill butchers must rank as unique in their sadistic ferocity.

They killed at random in the nationalist ghettos of Belfast, picking up Catholics off the streets, torturing them and slitting their throats.

After a five-year reign of terror, the gang of Protestant killers was convicted of murdering 19 people. Their actual total may have been as high as 32.

"They make Al Capone look like Mickey Mouse," said Belfast journalist Martin Dillon who has just written a chilling book on the killers for which he was given access to police files.

"These guys would make the mafia look respectable" Dillon told Reuters in an interview after months of deeply depressing research for his book "The Shankill Butchers: A case study of mass murder."

"There has always been the potential for mass murder in Northern Ireland. The potential for barbarism increases as a result of the prejudices that exist and the proximity of the two communities."

Almost 3,000 people have died and 30,000 have been injured in the 20-year fight by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to oust Britain from Northern Ireland.

For Dillon, the 1972-1977 string of gruesome Shankill butchers' murders "are the worst killings in the history of the troubles. These are the greatest mass murderers in British criminal history."

The gang's founder and chief assassin was Belfast Protestant extremist Lenny Murphy. He even master-minded killings by the gang while he was serving a prison sentence for arms possession.

His gang members — they included "Basher" Bates, "Big Sam" McAllister and "Pretty Boy" Edwards — had runyon-

# 'Talks' shock

LONDON, Nov 5. (AP) The government says its policy in Northern Ireland has not changed, but a top official has shaken the province by thinking out loud about talking to the Irish Republican Army.

"While the IRA's political wing quickly welcomed the overture, the military wing's next move was an attempt to bomb a police station."

Peter Brooke, in interviews marking his 100th day as secretary of state for Northern Ireland, said no military solution is possible, and that a British government might one day talk to Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing.

"That could only happen, Brooke specified, if the IRA abandoned its campaign of bombing and assassination."

"What I thought Mr. Brooke was saying was ordinary common sense," John Hume said yesterday. Hume is leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the province's largest Roman Catholic party.

However, there were calls for Brooke's resignation and the headline in the tabloid star yesterday shrieked, "surrender to the IRA."

Some complained of the timing, just a day after many newspapers in Britain had front-page pictures of the small, flag-draped coffin of Ruth Isabella, the 6-month-old girl shot and killed along with her soldier father by an IRA unit in West Germany.

Irish Republican Army guerrillas injured four Northern Ireland policemen yesterday in a rocket grenade attack on their armoured Landrover, police said.

The IRA guerrillas took over a house in West Belfast and held five people captive while they mounted the attack on the passing police patrol.

The RPG-7 rocket ripped off the Landrover's roof but the policemen escaped with bruises, cuts and shock.

esque names that sounded as if they came from a mafia hit squad. The youngest was just 16.

"Let's go out and get a taig (Catholic)," was a familiar cry from the gang which invariably plotted its next killing over drinks in a Protestant extremist bar. One victim was publicly "executed" there by Murphy.

"Murphy clearly enjoyed killings. He regarded it as good sport," Dillon said.

One of the gang's victims had 147 stab wounds, inflicted with a butcher's knife that became their grim trademark. Throat had been backed so deeply that the victim's head was almost severed from the trunk.

Another had all his teeth pulled out with pliers before he was killed.

Within hours of being released from prison, Murphy killed a man and ran him over repeatedly with his car to ensure the victim was pulverised.

Murphy, spurned by fellow Protestant paramilitaries as too extreme and loathed by the IRA as a pathological sectarian killer, was eventually shot dead by the IRA who were acting on information on his movements supplied to them by their opponents.

"He was viewed by some in his own community as a hero and the inscription on his tombstone reads 'here lies a soldier,'" Dillon said.

"Murphy is buried in the same cemetery as one of his own victims. I don't think he would have appreciated the irony of it. It could only happen in Northern Ireland — a mass murderer buried near one of his victims."

# China grips; world naps

BEIJING, Nov 5. (AP) Chinese students seeking to take an English-language proficiency test, a first step to study abroad, must now receive a letter of permission from their department in the latest government measure to tighten controls on overseas study.

Chinese sources said non-students must have a letter from their work unit or, if unemployed, from their neighbourhood committee if they want to take the test of English as a foreign language (TOEFL).

The sources said at least one Beijing student they knew had his request for a letter rejected by his department because he was on a "problem list" of students in some way involved in the pro-democracy demonstrations this spring.

They said some students are unaware of the new regulation and are being turned away from registration desks after days of lining up.

The demand to take the TOEFL is so great that young people must sometimes hold places in line for a week or more just to register.

The test, required by most universities in the United States and other English-speaking countries that accept foreign students, is usually given three times a year in Beijing. Students are now registering for a January examination.

An official of the state education commission confirmed that the rule demanding a letter of authorisation had recently gone into effect.

The government also requires a registration fee of \$29, equivalent to a month's salary for most workers. Chinese normally do not have access to foreign currency and often must turn to the black market, where the Chinese currency is worth less, to obtain dollars needed for the test.

The government insists that there is no change in its policy of sending students and academics abroad, but has spoken of "necessary adjustments" after the June crackdown on student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

Most government scholarships are going to older research students and scholars applying for short-term programmes. It is nearly impossible for undergraduates to gain permission for overseas study.

Premier Li Peng said in September that those being sent abroad should be mainly visiting scholars and researchers because they are older and more mature politically.

The government is also said to be shifting foreign study destinations away from the West and toward socialist countries where students will be less subject to contamination from Western liberal ideology.

Currently about half the 80,000 Chinese studying abroad are in the United States. Many in the West have been outspoken in criticising the Beijing government after the June crackdown on pro-democracy dissent.

The number of students failing to return to China, already high, will likely increase because of the political crackdown in their home country.

The government last week sought to extend its monitoring of self-supporting students, the least likely to return to China, by announcing that such students must register at the nearest Chinese embassy or consulate within the next six months.



Stands guard

An armed Greek soldier stands guard outside a polling station as Corinthians queue to vote. An estimated seven million Greeks are voting in today's general elections. (Reuters wirephoto)



Chapman on tour  
US singer Tracy Chapman during Nov 4th evening performance at Teatro Monumental, the first ever for Tracy in Madrid as she opens her tour in Spain which will take her to several cities in the country. She played to a sell-out crowd. (Reuters wirephoto)

# NEWS IN BRIEF

**Bombing charge denied:** Cambodia claimed today that a Thai aircraft bombed an island inside its territorial waters, but Thai officials immediately denied the charge.

The official Cambodian news agency SPK quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as charging that a Thai aircraft violated Cambodian airspace and bombed Rong Samleu Island last Tuesday.

The statement gave no details of the alleged air raid but accused "ultra-rightist Thai circles" of carrying out "gross aggression" and "hostile activities against Cambodia's territorial integrity." (AP)

**Cambodia to hold polls:** Cambodia will probably hold general elections in March if no political settlement is reached with guerrillas by then, a senior Foreign Ministry official said.

Uch Kiman, head of the ministry's general policy department, said no opposition candidates would be allowed to contest the polls. "We don't want to open another front if the war is still on," he said.

"If there is no political solution to the Cambodian problem by next spring, we'll hold general elections to renew the government's mandate. The situation is favourable enough." (Reuters)

**Pope brands traffickers:** Pope John Paul denounced drugs traffickers as "merchants of death" today and called for decisive action to stamp out the narcotics trade.

In a message to 20,000 Italians who marched against drugs through Rome to St Peter's Square, the Pope said the battle against drug abuse was one of the great challenges facing mankind.

"A decisive response is needed to the challenge of drugs. The interests of the 'merchants of death' who speculate on the suffering of millions of people must be identified and broken up," the pope said. (Reuters)

**Dutch minister nominated:** Dutch caretaker Premier Ruud Lubbers, who is in the final stages of forming his third consecutive government, yesterday nominated an expert in civil law as the new justice minister, a government spokesman said.

Ernst Hirsch Ballin, a 38-year-old Christian Democrat and a law professor at the Catholic University in Tilburg, southern Netherlands, has accepted the post in Lubbers' new centre-left coalition government, according to the spokesman.

It is the first political post for Hirsch Ballin, a long-time member of the party establishment who was described in newspaper profiles here as a brilliant jurist. (AP)

**Israeli-made arms seized:** The wave of unrest that has dominated the Yugoslav province of Kosovo over the past five days was further exacerbated by reports today of seizure of Israeli-made arms with rioters. Sources here said discovery of Israeli-made Uzi machineguns with ethnic Albanian demonstrators raised many question marks about parties instigating the riots and the way these weapons and ammunition reached the hands of demonstrators, particularly that the troubled province has remained under strict curfew and state of emergency imposed since February of last year.

The latest round of violence broke out last Monday in protest over trial of Kosovo's former communist chief Azem Vlasli. (Kuna)

**Dropping Red Star demanded:** The Congress of the official youth organisation in Slovenia yesterday demanded that the communist Red Star symbol be dropped from the republic's flag and emblem, the state Tanjug news agency reported.

The Congress, which opened Friday, is scheduled to decide whether the youth body will transform itself into a full-fledged opposition political party to contest elections in Slovenia, Yugoslavia's most liberal republic.

Several independent political movements and parties, including the Social Democratic Union and the Christian Democratic Alliance, have been formed in Slovenia over the past year. (AP)

**Things invade party HQ:** At least six masked thugs invaded an apartment being used as headquarters by a radical leftist party and beat up some of the occupants, the state news agency reported yesterday in Warsaw, Poland.

One 17-year-old high school student was detained at the scene, the PAP agency said, and police continued to question witnesses.

There was no immediate explanation for the incident, although one attacker allegedly said, "we came to beat communists." (AP)

**Poland cuts subsidies:** The Solidarity-led government said Friday it is cutting off public funds to the Communist Party by Jan 1, ending subsidies and tax exemptions that totalled 65 billion zlotys (\$27.1 million) in 1989.

State money to the United Peasants Party and the Democratic Party and to other social organisations also will end Jan 1. The cutoffs underline the government's determination to start treating political parties equally, officials said at a news conference.

"The strength of political parties and social and political organisations should grow out of social support and dues, and not from any system of privileges," said Minister Aleksander Hall, in charge of relations with political parties. (AP)

# Namibia on way towards freedom

WINDHOEK, Namibia, Nov 5. (AP) Under the watchful eyes of observers from around the world, Namibians of all parties and races vote together for the first time this week in elections that pave the way to independence.

The United Nations has mounted its most extensive and costly operation to monitor the week of voting and ballot-counting in Africa's last colonial, most of its sparsely populated desert.

The election for a constitution-writing assembly will be administered by South Africa, which agreed last year to end its 74-year rule over Namibia. Officials from 25 countries are coming to observe the voting, along with monitors from the 7,650-member UN force that has been deployed in the territory since April at the cost of some \$450 million.

Voting is to take place Tuesday through Saturday, with results expected early next week. The 701,483 registered voters will be choosing among 10 parties and casting ballots at 350 polling stations.

With an illiteracy rate of 60 per cent, confusing ballot symbols for the parties, intricate voter identification procedures, and the presence of up to 25 observers at each polling station, there is a strong possibility of disputes or delays before the outcome is known.

The focus of the election is whether the South-West Africa People's Organisation, which fought a 23-year guerrilla war against South African rule, will win two-thirds of the 72 assembly seats, enough to write the constitution without compromising with other parties.

Swapo's leaders are known as Marxists and once threatened to set up "re-education camps" for policemen and politicians and served the territorial government. But since their return from three decades of exile, the Swapo leaders have preached reconciliation among the more than 1.3 million people — including 75,000 whites — spread over 824,269 square kms (318,252 square miles).

Martti Ahtisaari of Finland, the top-ranking UN official in Namibia, is charged with declaring whether the elections meet the UN requirement of being "free and fair."

Many Namibians mistrust the United Nations because the world body for years designated Swapo as the sole representative of the Namibian people. That designation was lifted early this year.

UN Resolution 435, which outlines the independence process, calls for the constitution to include a bill of human rights, independence judiciary, periodic elections, multiple parties and free speech. Swapo has accepted those principles as "guidelines."

# Charles and Di visit Jogjakarta; Indonesia lauded

JOGJAKARTA, Indonesia, Nov 5. (AP) Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana called on the Sultan of the ancient central Java City of Jogjakarta today, received a tour of his palace and saw a traditional Javanese shadow play.

Many Indonesians who had waited since early morning Jostled and waved as the British royal couple passed by on the road to the palace.

Sultan Hamengkubuwono X and his wife, Ratu Hertas, chatted with their visitors about the Javanese kingdom and culture.

The visitors also were shown several Javanese

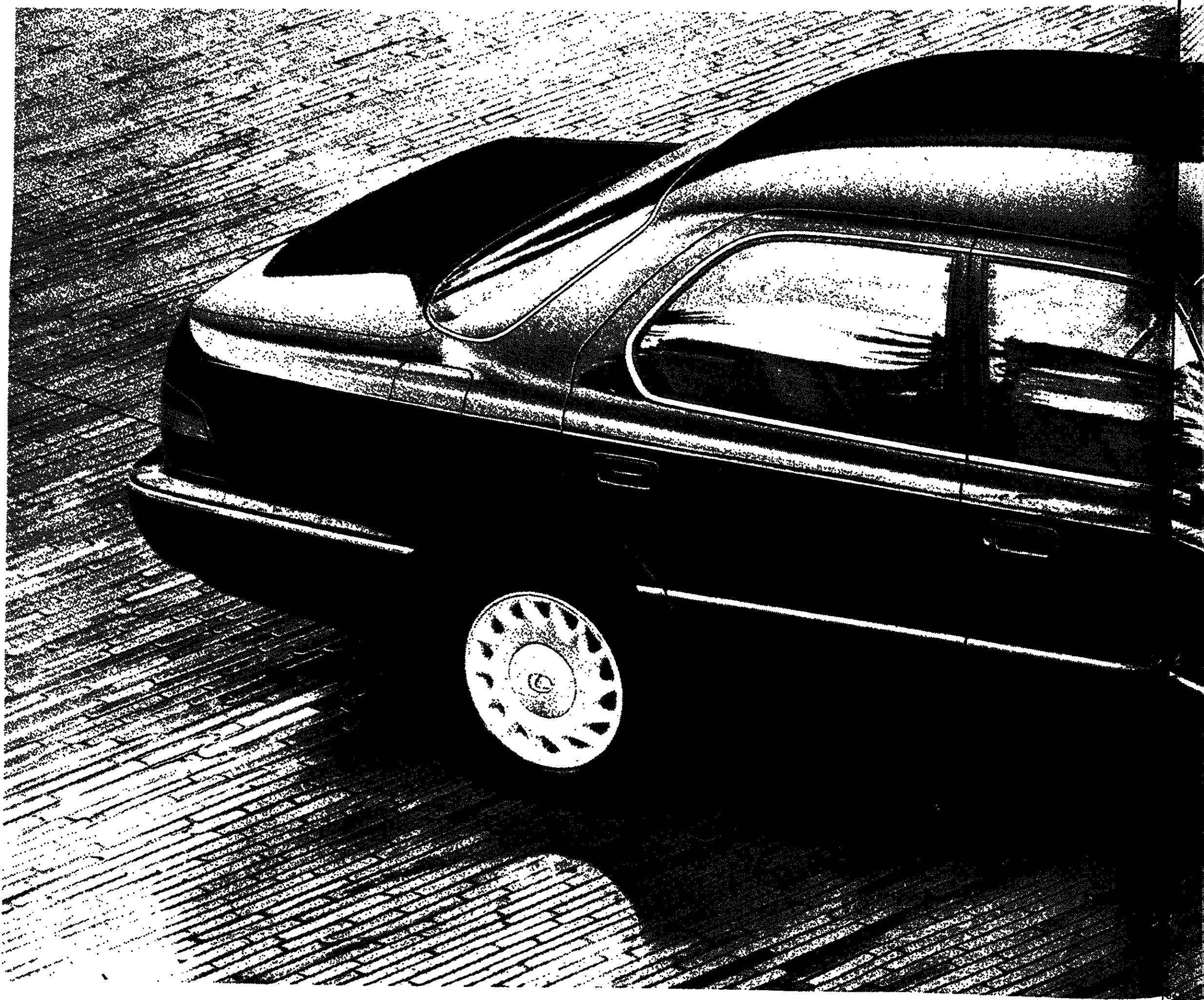
royal coaches dating back 128 years.

Earlier today, Prince Charles visited the eighth century Buddhist temple Borobudur, one of the largest Buddhist shrines in the world.

"We are happy Prince Charles came to the temple. It is a good promotion for us," said Budiardjo, head of a project to develop Borobudur park, about 50 kilometres (31 miles) from Jogjakarta.

Before leaving Jogjakarta to return to the national capital, Jakarta, the prince was driven to an agricultural training centre at Waragama Forest run by the state university of Gajah Mada.

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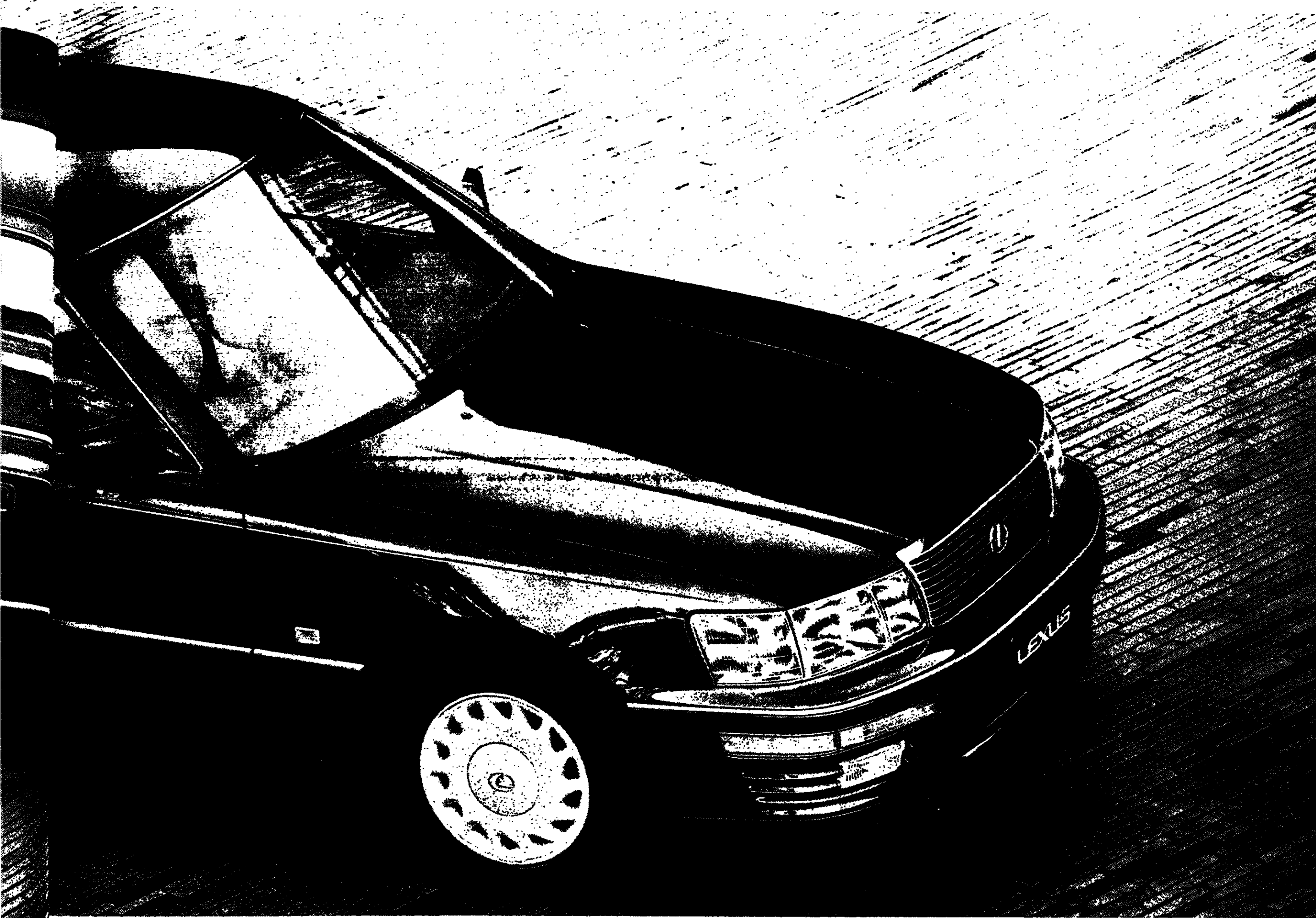
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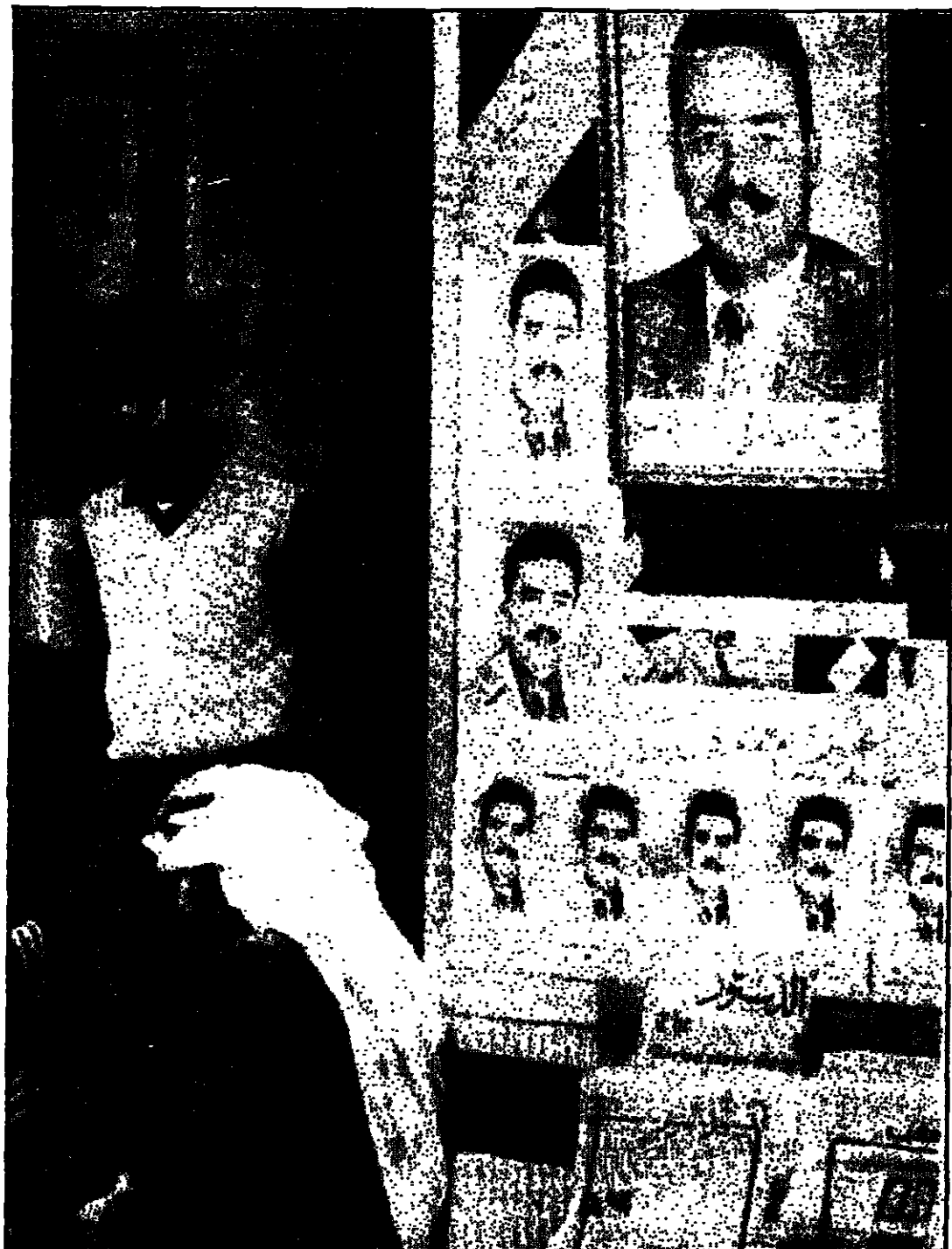


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### Weapons forbidden

Jordanian police issued a reminder on Sunday that carrying weapons is forbidden in the run-up to Wednesday's general election.

A police spokesman, quoted by the official Petra news agency, said police had orders to confiscate the weapon of anyone found violating the ban, originally issued by the Interior Minister.

Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali said candidates must stop all kinds of election propaganda by midnight on Tuesday, the end of the official campaigning period, Petra reported.

Voting in Jordan's first national parliamentary election in 22 years starts at 7 am (0500 GMT) on Wednesday.

One northern tribe has selected a Czechoslovak-trained cardiologist Ousem Obeldat as sole candidate for Parliament after a secret ballot.

Picture shows a shop window plastered with photographs of a candidate. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Sahara war won, believes Rabat

RABAT, Nov 5. (Reuters): Moroccans mark the anniversary of their Green March into the bleak Western Sahara on Monday — a people's protest that sparked a war but secured the throne of a threatened king.

Towns and villages throughout Morocco are set for the annual celebrations, 14 years after King Hassan sent 350,000 Holy Quran-waving unarmed citizens marching into what was then a Spanish colony to recover the "lost Saharan provinces."

It was a bold move. The war which followed with Polisario guerrillas seeking independence united the country and secured King Hassan's throne after a period of internal feuding and two failed coup attempts by elements of the military.

"We will give our blood for our Sahara, as Moroccans, all of us," said Mokhtar Guendouz, a taxi-driver, in a comment typical of many ordinary Moroccans.

This year, however, there is an extra spring in the steps of the Moroccans who are more than ever convinced the war is as good as won and Polisario as good as finished.

The confidence was not shaken by two Polisario attacks in October which followed a 12-month lull in fighting.

Moroccans have watched their television sets intently over the last seven days as the highest-ranking member of Polisario ever to defect dismissed them as the last fling of a discredited movement.

Night after night Omar Hadrami, a founding member of Polisario and formerly the group's representative in Washington, has spoken of the group's disarray and of the desire of many others to return to Morocco.

"I am like a bee awaiting the arrival of the others. Of that I assure you...these people (women and children) can only come collectively. They have entrusted me with a mission to find a solution enabling them to come back," he said.

Polisario has dismissed Hadrami as a "has been" who was paid a fortune to defect and have ridiculed his assertion of a pro-Moroccan wing in the guerrilla movement.

Military analysts and diplomats were surprised by the recent upsurge in fighting in which at least 25 Moroccans, including a colonel, were killed.

## Hope of reunion

### Israel-Ethiopia ties

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Nov 5. (AP): Israel's Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said the renewal of ties with Addis Ababa was an opportunity to reunite the rest of Ethiopian Jewry with their families in Israel.

But five years after a massive human airlift of thousands of Ethiopian Jews to Israel, immigrants are still finding the transition to Western culture difficult, and in some cases unbearable.

Arens yesterday praised Ethiopia's decision to restore full diplomatic ties with Israel after breaking them off 16 years ago. Ethiopia, along with 27 other African countries, severed ties with the Jewish state following the 1973 Middle East war.

"As you know, the Arab world is doing everything it can to keep African countries from resuming their diplomatic relations with Israel," Arens said on Israel radio yesterday.

"Ethiopia, nevertheless, decided to renew their relations with us," Arens said.



### Time for a cuddle

A Shiite Muslim fighter holds his small brother at the Muslim part of Beirut's Green Line battlefield that divides the Lebanese capital into two halves. Militiamen were alert yesterday as fears mounted that peace in Lebanon might collapse. (Reuters wirephoto)

KABUL, Nov 5. (AP): There are still some balmy days left this season in Afghanistan, but already people are worrying about winter.

In a foreshadowing of what is expected to be a major winter campaign, US-backed Muslim rebels closed the main road to the Soviet Union for 10 days last month, sending food and fuel prices up almost 50 per cent in the capital. Sugar and cooking oil disappeared from the markets. Cars vanished from the streets.

The Soviet-supported government fought fiercely to open the road, firing at least four huge Scud missiles, each about 11 metres (36 feet) long, and hundreds of other rockets at rebel positions on the highway. Rebels said government planes carpet-bombed villages friendly to the opposition.

By Tuesday, the Salang Highway had opened and trucks carrying flour and gasoline began to roll into the capital.

But the lesson was not lost. The 10 days were a dress rehearsal for winter.

"It's going to be a tough time, worse than last year," said Mohammad Khakim, president of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce.

Ross Moustain, head of the United Nations Development Programme in Kabul, says if the war goes on, the poor economy and the civil war are turning Afghanistan into "another Lebanon."

Last winter, a bustling black market blossomed around Soviet troops, who sold fuel for Kabul's electricity and flour for its bakeries. Some Afghans made small fortunes, trafficking in Soviet arms, bought from troops eager for foreign currency.

Still, malnutrition was rife, and people often went cold and hungry in their city

# Tunisians wait for more democracy

TUNIS, Nov 5. (Reuters): Tunisia's ruling party is celebrating two years under President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, but critics fear promised democratic reforms have stalled and may have gone into reverse gear.

Liberals, leftists and Muslim militants say restrictions still in force show that sweeping change pledged by Ben Ali two years ago, when he ended 30 years of rule by repressive President Habib Bourguiba, has a long way to go.

Ben Ali, marking the Nov 7 anniversary, renewed his democratic vows. Critics concede he has made progress, including legalising three new opposition parties and releasing jailed Islamic fundamentalists.

"Tunisia is determined to win the wager of democracy," he told a symposium

organised by the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union Party on Saturday.

"Our people are conscious and mature enough for everyone to take part in running their affairs," he said.

French Prime Minister Michel Rocard and other foreign guests praised Ben Ali's reforms. "There is great progress. The democratic situation is much better than in many Third World countries," said Rocard.

In the first months after deposing Bourguiba on grounds of senility, Ben Ali abolished a state security court and invited opposition figures to talks on the country's future.

The secretary-general of the ruling party, Abderrahim Zouari, said this week that reforms would continue.

But legal opposition parties say general elections on April 2, when the ruling party won all 141 seats in parliament, were not free and complain of restrictions on the press.

The Islamic opposition, probably the most influential force after the ruling party, has not yet been legalised and the leader of its Nahdha (Renaissance) Movement, Rashed Ghannouchi, has gone into voluntary exile.

Ben Ali's takeover "enjoyed extraordinary popular support and gave rise to great hopes," said Mohamed Harmel, leader of the Tunisian Communist Party. "Two years later, we have to admit that the hopes placed in change have started to collapse."

"April 2 was a great setback for all the achievements then under way," Nejib

Chebbi of the opposition Progressive Socialist Union told Reuters. "The record has since been negative and the situation is worsening."

Official sources said on Saturday that Ben Ali had freed from jail two politicians close to Bourguiba. He also released an opposition politician jailed this year for insulting him.

Many Tunisians outside politics say Ben Ali has brought improvements in human rights, cut government interference in the legal system and produced a general sense of greater freedom.

"Ben Ali's governments have been much more dynamic than those in Bourguiba's last years. You have the feeling they are serious about economic development," added a civil servant.

# PLO determined to have final say

### Israel says 'no'

CAIRO, Nov 5. (Agencies): PLO leaders are determined to have the final say in deciding who should represent Palestinians in possible talks with Israel, a Palestinian official said. Meanwhile, Israel sought two guarantees before accepting the US plan for talks with Palestinians.

"The PLO adopted a clear line that it was the only party responsible for the composition of the Palestinian delegation," said Kamal, the PLO's representative in Cairo, told reporters.

He was speaking today following an overnight meeting of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's 15-man executive committee, the first to be held in Cairo in more than 12 years.

Yasser Arafat and 11 top PLO policy-makers discussed a five-point plan by US Secretary of State James Baker for direct Palestinian-Israeli talks on Arab elections in the occupied areas.

Arafat later left for Baghdad, Egypt's national Middle East News Agency (Mena) said.

Kamal said the PLO would continue consultations with the Egyptian government on the formation of the team.

Egypt is playing a central role in trying to bring the Israelis and Palestinians to face-to-face talks.

Committee member Abdallah Al Hourani told Mena that the 12 PLO leaders adopted "a unified stance on peace movements."

He said they decided to set up a committee from the PLO's 108-member central council to draft a plan aimed at activating the peace process and the proposed talks with the Jewish state.

He did not give details, but said it would involve contacts with European countries and the Soviet Union.

Baker's formula, which still has to be approved by Israel, calls for direct but limited Palestinian-Israeli talks on elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to choose Palestinian representatives for talks on limited self-rule.

Israel refuses to deal with the PLO which it regards as a terrorist group.

In occupied Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today called a special meeting of Israel's 12-man inner cabinet amid reports the Labour and Likud factions had agreed to the US plan.

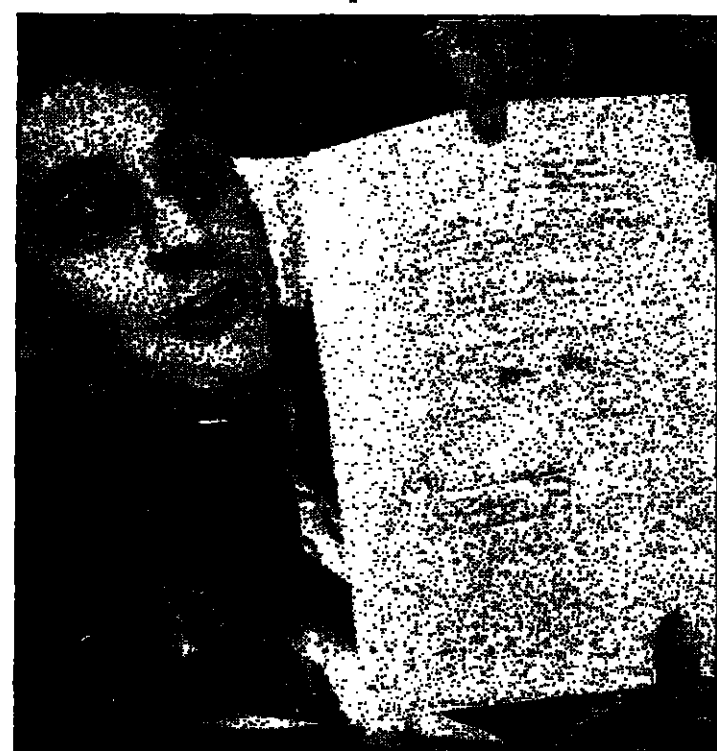
The two state-run radio stations said Shamir and fellow Likud member Foreign Minister Moshe Arens apparently reached agreement with the Labour leaders, Finance Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, to accept the US proposal.

The reports on Israel and Army Radio did not give details of the agreement. Both, however, said that the reply worked out by the four ministers would say Israel accepted the American plan "on the assumption" that it would receive two US guarantees:

- First, that the PLO would have no role in the peace process.
- Second, that the proposed Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo would deal only with

Arab assassinations and wounded two Israelis today, and troops dispersed American protesters after a pray-in with Palestinians in the West Bank.

Elsewhere, a Palestinian died of wounds sustained Friday and seven Arabs were wounded in clashes, including a 15-year-old boy who was shot by border police after a lengthy chase through the crowded market streets of Bethlehem.



Leading Palestinian activist, Faisal Hussein, displays an Israeli Army closure order which had just been presented to him at a roadblock. He was on his way to Beit Sahour to attend a peace march in support of the town's tax payment defiance when he was stopped. (Reuters wirephoto)

**Servicemen honoured:** Three former Iran hostages laid a wreath Saturday at Arlington National Cemetery to honour the eight US servicemen who died in the abortive 1980 attempt to rescue Americans being held in Tehran.

Taking part in the ceremony were former hostages Richard Queen, William Royer and retired Air Force Col. David Roeder.

The wreath-laying at the Iran rescue mission plaque in the cemetery near Washington was followed by the playing of tape.

The tribute was sponsored by No Greater Love, a humanitarian organisation which promoted the yellow ribbon campaign during the Iran hostage crisis and now seeks to assist the families of Americans being held in Lebanon.

**Employees sent home:** The military regime has sent home 2,000 government employees to the partially besieged southern capital of Juba in an effort to pump life into the deserted war-torn south, a military official said today.

This is the first such effort by the government and it was not immediately clear if the employees returned home willingly or were forced to do so.

More than 2 million southerners have fled their homes since the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army took up arms against the government in 1983.

Juba, 1,200 km (750 miles) south of Khartoum and the capital of the southern region of Equatoria, is almost totally besieged by the rebels. It's inhabitants, many of whom are displaced people who fled fighting in the countryside to the government-controlled city, depend mainly on relief food which is flown in from Khartoum or Nairobi, Kenya.

**Tremors in Algeria:** Several earth tremors shook Algeria and the coastal town of Tipaza on Saturday, six days after a major earthquake killed 24 people.

The Algerian news agency APS, monitored in Paris, said a shock measuring 4.3 on the Richter scale hit the area in the evening. Smaller tremors were felt in the morning.

More than 450 people were injured and hundreds made homeless when a quake measuring six points on the Richter scale hit the west of Algiers and Tipaza last Sunday.

**Quake jolts Iran:** An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the open-ended Richter scale jolted Kerman in east Iran early today, Iran's news agency said.

There was no word on any casualties or damage after the quake struck at 12.19 am (0100 GMT on Saturday) with an epicentre 800 km (500 miles) southeast of Tehran, said Iran, monitored in Cyprus.

A quake measuring 4.5 on the scale jolted Tehran on Oct 26 but there were no reports of damage. The epicentre of that quake was in mountains northeast of the Iranian capital.

**Rebels kill troops:** Rebel forces killed 100 government troops in northern Ethiopia early last week in an operation to "raise their peace flag" in Mehal Media province, the clandestine Voice of the Tigray Revolution radio reported.

The radio said the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF) captured the strategic position of Kara Malk and crushed an Army battalion stationed there. It said 100 Ethiopian troops were killed, 160 wounded and 25 captured, but gave no indication of rebel losses.

**Agenda for talks:** Ethiopia's Marxist government met rebels from the northern province of Tigray today to discuss an agenda for full-scale peace negotiations.

The preliminary talks between the government and the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) opened on Saturday night after a nine-hour delay caused by procedural disputes. The brief session heard opening speeches but did not negotiating.

TPLF sources said the movement would present an eight-point peace plan today as a framework for the negotiations to end the long-running civil war in northern Ethiopia.

**Velayati to visit:** Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will arrive in Algeria to discuss Lebanon and the stalled Gulf peace talks, an Algerian Foreign Ministry official said.

Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali is a member of the Arab League Committee mandated to try to end 14 years of civil war in Lebanon.

Velayati last visited Algeria in 1982.

## Demo in Khartoum

# Students ask Bashir to quit

KHARTOUM, Nov 5. (Reuters): Hundreds of Sudanese students demonstrated yesterday calling on the military government of General Omar Hassan Al Bashir to step down, eyewitnesses said.

The demonstration, at the Khartoum branch of Cairo University, coincided with the opening of a week-long seminar on peace prospects in Sudan's southern region, torn by more than six years of civil war.

A member of Bashir's 15-strong military junta, colonel Mohammed Al Amin Khalifa, attended the opening session of the seminar.

Witnesses said police did not intervene and no arrests were made. There was no official comment on the protest which was not reported by state-controlled radio and television in their coverage of the seminar.

It was the second anti-military demonstration by university students in Khartoum since September.

Several hundred Khartoum University students shouted slogans against military rule during a pro-junta rally on campus on September 20. Khalifa was also present.

Bashir, who seized power in a coup on June 30, has since imposed a nation-wide state of emergency, suspended the constitution and dissolved parliament, political parties and trade unions.

He detained scores of politicians, including former Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, and trade union leaders.

■ Unidentified warplanes bom-

bed a rebel-held town in south Sudan, killing at least two people, in the second air attack there in a week, United Nations officials and Western diplomats said on Sunday.

They said two jets, believed to be from the Sudanese Air Force, attacked Waat, 810 km (500 miles) south of Khartoum, on Saturday.

They said they learned of the raid from UN World Food Programme workers based in the town, held by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), in Upper Nile region.

The reported bombing followed a decision on Friday by the military government in Khartoum to suspend all relief flights to south Sudan.

A spokesman in Khartoum for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) told Reuters last week that two jets bombed the town of Yirol on Oct. 31 and killed at least five people, all civilians.

The diplomats and UN officials said the ICRC had complained to the Sudanese government about the raid on Yirol, in one of eight south Sudan districts where the Geneva-based humanitarian organisation runs relief programmes.

They said the government had told relief organisations that all their flights had been suspended pending an investigation into the Yirol bombing.

Three security officers prevented UN workers entering their hangar at Khartoum airport on Sunday, they added.

## Pullout is first priority: Tehran

NICOSIA, Nov 5. (AP): United Nations envoy Jan Eliasson, in Tehran on a shuttle mission to break the deadlock in the Iran-Iraq peace talks, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati yesterday, Tehran radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said that Eliasson briefed Velayati on his talks with Iraqi officials during a visit to Baghdad earlier in the week. He arrived in Tehran Friday, heading a six-man delegation.

Eliasson, a Swede, is the special envoy of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The radio quoted him as telling Velayati: "I stress my own, the secretary-general's, and the UN Security Council's commitment to the full implementation of Resolution 598," designed to end the state of war between Iran and Iraq.

He said on arrival Friday: "Nothing must obstruct the complete implementation of the resolution."

Eliasson was expected to visit both Tehran and Baghdad several times during his mission, expected to last three weeks.

UN-sponsored peace talks between Iran and Iraq were launched five days after a ceasefire took hold on Aug 20, 1988, halting eight years of hostilities.

Iran insisted there could be no progress until the Iraqis withdrew from Iranian territory seized in the last weeks of the war.

Velayati told Eliasson the withdrawal is the "first priority," the radio said.

He quoted him as saying that "the implementation of all the articles of the resolution with an emphasis on troops pullout to international borders, plus exchange of the prisoners of war, will bring a comprehensive and just peace between the two countries."

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said today Iran's actions in rebuilding war-shattered plants near the Iraqi border showed that Tehran wanted a lasting peace with Baghdad.

He was speaking at a meeting in Tehran with Eliasson.

Rafsanjani said Iran proved its goodwill from the moment it accepted the resolution last year.

## Taste of winter comes to Afghanistan: citizens worry of starvation

KABUL, Nov 5. (AP): There are still some balmy days left this season in Afghanistan, but already people are worrying about winter.

In a foreshadowing of what is expected to be a major winter campaign, US-backed Muslim rebels closed the main road to the Soviet Union for 10 days last month, sending food and fuel prices up almost 50 per cent in the capital. Sugar and cooking oil disappeared from the markets. Cars vanished from the streets.

The Soviet-supported government fought fiercely to open the road, firing at least four huge Scud missiles, each about 11 metres (36 feet) long, and hundreds of other rockets at rebel positions on the highway. Rebels said government planes carpet-bombed villages friendly to the opposition.

By Tuesday, the Salang Highway had opened and trucks carrying flour and gasoline began to roll into the capital.

But the lesson was not lost. The 10 days were a dress rehearsal for winter.

"It's going to be a tough time, worse than last year," said Mohammad Khakim, president of the Afghanistan Chamber of Commerce.

Ross Moustain, head of the United Nations Development Programme in Kabul, says if the war goes on, the poor economy and the civil war are turning Afghanistan into "another Lebanon."

Last winter, a bustling black market blossomed around Soviet troops, who sold fuel for Kabul's electricity and flour for its bakeries. Some Afghans made small fortunes, trafficking in Soviet arms, bought from troops eager for foreign currency.

Still, malnutrition was rife, and people often went cold and hungry in their city

blanketed in snow.

In February, Moscow ended its 10-year intervention. With its soldiers went an important source of goods and cash. Now, despite a massive Soviet aid programme that in six months has sent 266,543 metric tonnes of goods overland and thousands more by air, the economy is getting worse.

In 1987, the country's combined exports and imports barely hit \$1 billion. This year, Afghanistan will be lucky if it achieves half that, according to chamber of commerce figures. Gross national product has risen little above the 1983 per capita figure of \$157.

But now, prices already higher than last February, a bad sign since food costs in Afghanistan are traditionally lower in autumn when it is harvested. A seven-kilogramme (15.4-pound) sack of flour has almost doubled in cost to 1,600 afgh-

anis (\$4) and by the end of winter merchants estimate it could hit \$10.

Sugar has skyrocketed to more than \$2 a kilogramme, tea, the third most important item, has tripled in price.

Women have begun defying the 10 pm to 3 am curfew and are spending nights outside bakeries to ensure a loaf or two in the morning.

"I am poor," said one elderly woman as she fixed her straw mattress outside one store as the curfew approached. "My husband and I need to eat and there is no other way to get bread."

Despite inflation, salaries haven't gone up.

The average monthly wage hovers between 2,000 afghanis (\$4) and 5,000 afghanis (\$12.5). Government food coupons are issued to the military, the numerous militias and government employees, but

no one else.

For many in Kabul, desperation has become a way of life.

Omar Mir Ahmad runs a photo shop in a small house with mud walls in the old city. His whole family works in the store and they make about 18,000 afghanis (\$4.5) a month.

Since they run a private business, the family receives no government assistance.

At Kabul University, a student wearing fluorescent pink lipstick and bright white shoes recounts that her two brothers were killed by a rocket as they flew their kites.

"Tell the United States and Russia to send two big bombs to blow us up all at once," she says. "We are sick of dying in bits and bits and pieces. Let us die together."



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Future lies in Arab nation

ABU DHABI, Nov 5, (Kuna): President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan said here today economic progress is based on joint interests and the future will be controlled by major economic blocs while minor gatherings will hardly have a place in such a future.

Sheikh Zayed said so in his opening address to the 31st Conference of the Arab Chambers of Trade, Industry and Agriculture held in the UAE.

He drew attention to the fact that other nations with different creeds, languages and orientations have realised tangible success through co-operation and co-ordination.

The Arab nation is capable of forming an integrated economic bloc as it presently has 211 million people, a large market, abundant resources and sufficient numbers of experts and skilled labour force, he said in the address delivered on his behalf by Economy and Trade Minister Seif El Jarwan.

Arab economic integration and a joint Arab market are the practical steps toward Arab unity, which has not only become a necessity but a matter of destiny.

Chairman of the UAE Union of Commerce and Industry Chambers, head of the conference, Hamad Boushab said foreign debts are still a big burden on growth in many Arab countries.

Third World debts to the Western countries and banks amounted to \$1,240 billion in 1988, and are expected to reach \$1,279 billion at the end of 1989 and \$1,337 billion in 1990.

Overnight deal at 8-5/8 per cent. Tomorrow's next and spot rates were indicated at 8-1/2 and one week at 8-7/8. On Saturday they had been quoted at a uniform 8-3/4-1/2 per cent. There was little activity other than in overnight.

In the fixed rates, one and three months were little moved at 8-5/8/3/8. Six months and one year were quoted at 8-9/16 5/16.

The Central Bank left its dollar to dollar exchange rate unchanged from Saturday at 0.2985/05.

Saudi rial interbank deposits were steady in a typically dull Sunday market, with most operators sidelined or absent due to the European weekend.

Light crude Oil find

NICOSIA, Nov 5, (Reuters): The Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudia) said today it discovered a new oil zone in the centre of the kingdom which yielded a light, low-sulfur crude.

It said a well drilled in the new oil zone, which lies 75-km (47 miles) southeast of Riyadh at Dhamat, test flowed at 4,300 barrels per day (bpd) of sweet crude on Oct 22 with a gravity of 44 API degrees.

KUWAIT, Nov 5, (Kuna): Following the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, today:

Period Bid Offered  
1 month 8-3/8 8-5/8  
3 months 8-3/8 8-5/8  
6 months 8-5/16 8-9/16  
1 year 8-5/16 8-9/16

## UK to play key role in EEC Favours evolutionary approach

By M.C. Bose  
Business Editor, Arab Times

JOHN MAJOR, the new chancellor of the UK Exchequer told the House of Commons yesterday that Britain was keen to play a central and constructive part in the debate with its European Parliament on closer economic and monetary co-operation.

Chancellor Major advanced radical proposals in order to achieve zero inflation in the European Economic Community through a system of competing currencies managed largely by sovereign states. The government believes that the most suitable currency will anchor the European Monetary System, the mechanism for controlling currency fluctuations.

Speaking at Friday's Commons debate on European Economic Monetary Union, Major said although the government remained committed to joining the EMS, it favoured an evolutionary approach to closer economic and monetary union.

The British Treasury spokesman told the Arab Times in an exclusive interview that the government's plan which was elaborated in a document released by the Treasury, is the formal outcome of the government's firm commitment at the Madrid summit last year to put forward its ideas about integration. It will be placed before European foreign ministers on Monday and finance ministers a week later. The government on Friday called for an evolutionary approach to economic

and monetary union and rejected the idea of common currency in its long-awaited rebuttal to the Jacques Delors report. The objectives of monetary union, which are more complex include: price and currency stability; lower costs of financial transactions, and services by all citizens and other borrowers and lenders within the community. The spokesman said stage one will lead to substantial progress on each of these objectives. Beyond stage one, the UK proposes a gradual, evolutionary approach leading to economic and monetary union. The UK government reaffirms that it will join the ERM when the level of inflation is significantly lower. In addition the changes in stage one will increase the amount of currency substitution.



Veteran car run

A 1903 Renault four-seater (left) and a 1903 Oldsmobile drive past the Houses of Parliament at the start of the 1989 London to Brighton Veteran Car run yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Ford places costly bet Snob appeal

LONDON, Nov 5, (AP): Ford Motor Co., the world's second largest auto-maker, is placing a costly bet that it can mass-produce Jaguars profitably without spoiling the luxury car's main selling point: its snob appeal.

With its upper-class English image, Jaguar is to cars what burberry is to expensive raincoats, asprey is to jewellery, and wedgewood to china.

The exclusive brand name is what made money-losing Jaguar PLC worth \$2.5 billion to Ford in a friendly takeover deal announced Thursday.

The risk is that the 67-year-old British company will be tarnished by Ford's down-market image, and that a Jaguar simply will never be a Jaguar again.

Jaguar will be wholly owned by Ford if Jaguar's shareholders agree by a 75 per cent majority at a special meeting late this month. But Jaguar will be operated as a separate entity, both companies stressed.

Ford's offering price is more than double the market price of Jaguar's shares in mid-September, before Ford first declared its intention to buy a stake in the British company.

No. 1 auto-maker General Motors Corp., which had been Jaguar's preferred suitor, dropped out of the contest Thursday, saying Jaguar wasn't worth the price. For nine months it had tried to work out a friendly deal that would have given it a minority stake in the British company.

Jaguar wasn't a bargain, analysts agreed. "Ford is paying quite a high price," said Stephen Reitman, an auto analyst at the London investment firm UBS Phillips and Drew.

Said Sanjay Dabysing, a motor industry analyst with the private forecasting firm DRI Europe: "It seems like a lot of money to pay for a company that is making losses at the moment."

Ford is going to have to spend another billion dollars or more on Jaguar to fulfill the American company's dream of expanding in the faster-growing luxury end of the market.

Analysts stressed the takeover is part of an expensive long-term strategy that at best will not reap rewards for years to come.

Ford apparently believes that buying Jaguar at this price is a cheaper, faster and less risky approach than starting from scratch.

This is not Ford's first foray into luxury cars. Ford acquired Britain's Aston Martin Lagonda two years ago. In 1986, it failed to obtain a stake in Italian car maker Alfa Romeo. Last month it abandoned negotiations with Swedish car maker Saab-Scania, and it also dropped plans to sell its German-built Merkur luxury cars in the United States.

Analysts expect Jaguar to post a loss for 1989 after a slim 45 million in profit last year, which came on

revenue of 1.07 billion. Jaguar has suffered in recent years from a slump in US luxury car sales and the weak dollar. It depends on the United States for a whopping 40 per cent of its sales.

For 10 months, Jaguar had searched high and low for financial and technological support. But Jaguar chairman Sir John Egan was looking for a minority partner because, he insisted, Jaguar's independence was crucial to its success.

"Our desire has always been to keep our destiny firmly in our own hands," Egan said last month. But Jaguar's stock soared on speculation of a takeover contest between the rival American auto-makers.

"It became increasingly difficult to see how a partial deal would succeed," Egan said at a Thursday news conference.

Jaguar was compelled to recommend Ford's offer to its shareholders because the US auto-maker offered a good price and made assurances that Jaguar would operate separately, Egan said.

Ford probably will seek ultimately to multiply Jaguar's annual production tenfold to half a million cars from the current 50,000 and add cheaper models to compete with West German luxury auto-maker BMW's line, and with the emerging Japanese luxury models, analysts said.

The cheapest Jaguar now costs 37,900. Its narrow product range is made up of XJ6 and series III sedans, XJS sports cars and limousines a year.

Lindsay Halstead, the chairman of Ford of Europe, said at the news conference he believed Jaguar's product range could be expanded in the United States, Europe and elsewhere.

Specifics were still to be worked out, Halstead said, but Ford was prepared to invest whatever was necessary in Jaguar. It also would provide technological support, he said.

Egan said, "We will look at areas where we can make the biggest and earliest gains."

The distinctive Jaguars still will be produced in Britain, by Jaguar's 12,500 workers at four expanding plants. Headquarters will be maintained in Coventry, 95 miles northwest of London.

Jaguar's dealer network will be maintained. Jaguar will continue to have a separate board of directors, including Ford directors, who will have "sole discretion in the application of the Jaguar marque," or brand name, the companies said.

The analyst Reitman said: "They have to keep Jaguar at an arm's length so that Jaguar is not too closely associated in the customer's eyes with being just another Ford. Jaguar is very unique, the cachet that is attached to the thing is very strong."

July, strikes are on the increase and the country is on its way to recording its first negative trade balance since 1976. Leaders from President Mikhail Gorbachev downwards admit the country is in the midst of a major economic crisis.

## US Senate approves EEC 1992 policies

WASHINGTON, Nov 5, (UPI): The Senate task force on the anticipated 1992 integration of the European Economic Community released a proposed 10-point policy Wednesday in a bid to assure US companies access to the emerging single European market.

The 12-member European Community is seeking to ease trade barriers among its nations to create a vast market of 320 million customers. The process is proceeding on schedule and is expected to be complete by 1992.

The process has attracted great interest from the US business community, which wants to make sure it is granted equal access to the new openness in the European market.

In releasing its policy recommendations, the Senate task force said it was trying to prevent the creation of a "Fortress Europe," in which protectionist trade practices would prevent US companies from competing fairly in the European market.

Sen. William Roth, Republican-Deleware, co-chairman of the task force, said the anticipated 1992 integration posed great challenges for the US economy.

"There is no way a decision made across the Atlantic will not affect all of us," he said.

Chief among the policy recommendations is that the rules guiding the 1992 market integration be consistent with the directives of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which governs the world trading system.

"The United States must be ready and able to respond quickly to signs of protectionism in Europe," the task force policy recommendation said.

Both said the objectives of the United States in the 1990 GATT Uruguay round should promote a positive evolution of the 1992 single market integration.

Much of that effort could focus on government procurements. During the 1980 GATT round in Tokyo, standards were established for government procurements. Policies prepared for the European integration are seeking to liberalise those standards.

The task force also recommended that the European Economic Community not force US companies to abandon their European sales efforts in favour of investments in Europe.

This issue surfaced after US manufacturers, particularly semiconductor makers, expressed fear that new trade barriers would discriminate against products not made in Europe.

"They are forcing US semiconductor firms to invest in Europe and build plants there that otherwise would have been built here," said Sen. Max Baucus, Democrat-Montana, the other co-chairman of the task force.

The task force also urged President Bush to accept a proposal by Jacques Delors, president of the European Economic Community, to establish a process for regular high-level consultations between the United States and the EEC.

## Jordan accepts loan conditions Democracy to test pact

AMMAN, Nov 5, (Reuters): Jordan has agreed to the terms of \$150-million loan from the World Bank following months of talks in Amman and Washington.

"The loan will support the industrial and export sector and the balance of payments and will help to finance imports of capital goods, raw materials and basic commodities," Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali told reporters.

He said the cabinet endorsed the loan last evening, but did not say when the agreement would be signed.

The money would also be used to help to implement a plan to increase Jordanian exports and investment, he added.

Finance Minister Basel Jaraneh said Japan will lend Jordan a further \$150 million and West Germany \$17 million to support the World Bank programme.

Jordan, saddled with \$8 billion in foreign debts, agreed a fiscal and monetary programme with the International Monetary Fund in April and signed a debt rescheduling agreement with its official creditors in July.

A rescheduling accord with commercial bank creditors grouped in the London club is still under negotiation.

Jordan is getting a dose of democracy to ease the pain of its economic ills, but economists hope the new parliament will resist populist demands that could wreck a recovery programme agreed with the IMF and World Bank.

King Hussein called Wednesday's general election, the first in more than two decades, after April price riots against an austerity regime backed by the IMF.

The unrest that swept southern towns was a measure of the credibility gap that had opened up between Jordanians and a government widely criticised as being corrupt and insensitive.

Many of the 650 candidates for parliament are demanding an inquiry into how Jordan ran up an \$8 billion foreign debt and then ran out of hard currency a year ago.

The Jordanian dinar has since lost nearly half its dollar value and the government's cost of living index has risen by a third.

The World Bank forecasts per capita gross national product at \$970 next year, compared to \$1,500 in 1988.

Various candidates are urging wage increases, job creation, higher food subsidies, lower customs duties and help for farmers.

Scrutiny of the 1990 budget law will be among the first tasks of the new 80-seat lower house of parliament.

Jardaneh has promised to cut the budget deficit to 16.5 per cent of gross domestic product from 24 per cent in 1988 and an expected 20.2 per cent this year.

Concerned to shield the poor, the government on Saturday approved a plan in principle to aid more than 18 per cent of Jordanian households reported to be below the poverty line.

In the past, Amman has looked to Arab aid, foreign loans and workers' remittances to cover chronic budget and payments gaps.

But these revenue sources have dwindled and Jordan is trying to live more within its means and boost domestic production.

Over the next decade Jordan's rapidly growing population will impose severe demands on its limited resources.

Crown Prince Hassan said last week Jordan, which now has about three million people, would have 4.5 million, including 1.5 million school students, by the end of the century.

## Cairo, WB disagree Talks extended

CAIRO, Nov 5, (AP): Talks between the government and the World Bank on economic reforms will be extended for another two weeks to try and resolve issues on which the two sides disagree, the Middle East News Agency reported today.

Mena said that the World Bank wants the government to increase the price of subsidised electricity and fuel which cost 40 per cent less than world prices; unify the exchange rate which would mean a partial devaluation of the Egyptian pound; and increase the interest on bank saving accounts.

The Egyptian government wants to undertake these issues at a slow and gradual pace so as to avoid social upheaval.

The talks between the World Bank and the Economy Ministry were supposed to end today after two weeks of meetings. But the agency said the talks were extended for another two weeks in an attempt to resolve the remaining issues.

The agency said that the two sides basically agreed on how to deal with public sector companies which were losing money.

Egypt needs a clean bill of health for its economic reforms to enable it to reschedule part of its \$44 billion foreign debt.

Egypt launched an economic reform programme in 1987 that included cuts in government spending, a more realistic exchange rate for the pound and a need to decrease subsidies on essential commodities.

The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have been pushing the government to carry out the reforms at a quicker pace.

## Soviets, Iran in trade talks Economic ties boosted

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Nov 5, (AP): Soviet Minister for Foreign Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev praised growing economic relations with Tehran during a meeting yesterday with Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, Tehran Radio reported.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, said Katushev also conveyed to Rafsanjani Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's regards.

He expressed "satisfaction at the growing relations between Iran and the Soviet Union," the radio said.

Referring to Gorbachev's policies, Rafsanjani said: "We follow the internal developments in your country and your friends in the East bloc very carefully, and see these changes as completely positive and effective," the radio reported.

He added: "The experience of the Islamic Republic can be very useful to the Soviet Union, since you will not go from Marxism to capitalism, but will chose a middle ground."

"We would like to have close co-operation with you in this regard," the radio quoted Rafsanjani as saying.

Tehran-Moscow ties have developed rapidly following the Aug 20, 1988, ceasefire in the 8-year Iran-Iraq war.

Following a meeting with Katushev yesterday, Iran's Minister of Economy and Finance, Mohsen Nourbakhsh, said that exports of two billion cubic metres of natural gas to the Soviet Union will begin in March.

According to two other agreements finalised by Katushev and Nourbakhsh, Soviet experts will help upgrade the Ramin power station in southwestern city of Ahvaz, and the Shahid Montazeri power station in Central Isfahan province.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, also monitored in Nicosia, quoted the Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait, Ernest Zverev, as saying that his government backs the full implementation of the UN peace resolution which halted the Gulf war.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti local daily, Zverev said that Rafsanjani's visit to Moscow had "ushered in a new era in Iran-Soviet relations," Irna added.

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## Soviet economists back far-reaching plan to save economy

MOSCOW, Nov 5, (Reuters): Senior Soviet economists appear set to push through a wide-ranging programme to revitalise the country's moribund economy, including ownership of private property and the introduction of a free-market system.

The so-called "radical-moderate" programme is not as strong as that proposed by extreme radicals but leans more towards far-reaching reform than tinkering with existing structures.

Its main aims are to encourage private property ownership, breaking up state monopolies on industry and removing most restrictions on foreign trade.

An article carried by the official Tass news agency said the programme looked likely to win the day when senior advisers and economists meet in Moscow in a week's time for an unprecedented three-day conference on the country's financial state.

Industrial production has slumped since

July, strikes are on the increase and the country is on its way to recording its first negative trade balance since 1976. Leaders from President Mikhail Gorbachev downwards admit the country is in the midst of a major economic crisis.

The article's author, S. Turanov, briefly sketched the ideas of the first two camps before coming down firmly in favour of the radical-moderates, whose programme he described as a "reasonable combination" of the first two.

Their programme — which was recently published by the weekly Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta — is widely believed to have been written by Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin, who will chair the three-day meeting.

Abalkin, in charge of a state commission into economic reform, is becoming an increasingly influential adviser and was brought into the government over the summer to oversee efforts to put the economy back on its feet.



# Oil refining strategies of the Gulf Kuwait, Riyadh set pace

THE world oil market is experiencing a major transition back to a fully integrated industry, much as it was in the 1950s and 1960s, when the major oil companies known then as the "Seven Sisters" managed the oil market from the well-head to the retail petrol station. This time among the main players are the major oil producing countries who are expanding their domestic refining capacity and are acquiring refineries and distribution facilities abroad. The motivation behind this downstream push is to gain guaranteed marketing outlets for oil products and share in the refining and marketing profits, which in the past two years have contributed around one third of the net earnings of the international oil companies.

Trading conditions for the refining industry showed a marked improvement over the past twelve months and for the first time since 1973 there are signs that the oil market will be more than temporary. Increasing demand for refined products has pushed up plant utilisation rates, while product prices have been generally firm and crude oil prices are at reasonably low levels to give positive margins. Utilisation capacity has increased from the 73 per cent in 1987 to 76 per cent this year in West Europe and Japan and up to 84 per cent in the US. Profits in excess of \$3 per barrel were reported at times, a sharp contrast to conditions prevailing two years ago. The strong economic growth of the industrialised countries and the growing demand for unleaded gasoline are the main factors behind recent higher returns.

Several Opec countries have already undertaken the development of their domestic refining and marketing capacity in order to meet local demand and avoid reliance on overseas interests. Some have made the move towards exporting refined products seeking not only a share of the refiner's profit margin, but also the benefits of developing local technical skills, expand employment opportunities and add value to the crude oil produced. A few are now making the third step of this process of natural evolution by acquiring refining and marketing interests abroad in the apparent search for secured markets and enhanced investment opportunities. Apart from market share considerations, perhaps it makes more sense for Gulf countries to sell their oil in product form out of their refineries abroad than to export petroleum products from local plants. The main reason is that the freight costs for crude and fuel oil are very low relative to those for light and middle distillates and the exporter would be in a better position to manage the market for refined products out of its overseas outlets. Furthermore, profit margins for major refineries have been improving and it is still cheaper to buy an operating refinery in any of the Opec markets than to build a new one in the Gulf.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are setting the pace for the downstream trend. Kuwait has a total oil refining capacity of 950,000 b/d of which 725,000 b/d can be processed locally. The country owns two refineries and 4,800 petrol stations in Western Europe. Saudi Arabia has a domestic refining capacity of around 1.58 million b/d, of which 1.1 million b/d is in three American refineries and access to 11,450 petrol stations in 23 states. This will provide Saudi Arabia with secure outlet for 615,000 b/d of oil. The other GCC states are generally well placed to pursue complementary policies to those of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Abu Dhabi has embarked on a similar path with its acquisition of a 10 per cent stake in Spain's largest petrochemical company, the Spanish Refining and Petrochemical Company (Cepsa), and a 10 per cent stake in the French company Total. As for Oman, Qatar and Bahrain, a different pattern of downstream integration may unfold involving tie-ups with more significant local oil producers. This move downstream is taking a variety of forms ranging from full ownership and operation of integrated refining and marketing systems as was the case with Kuwait's overseas acquisitions, to a joint venture approach adopted by Saudi Arabia, to the minority equity position of Abu Dhabi.

The major Gulf oil producing countries would like to eventually secure overseas refining and marketing outlets for a large percentage of their crude oil production. They would therefore seek to acquire in the coming decade downstream ventures in the US, Europe, South East Asia and certain other developing countries. However, such a development must be kept in perspective. While Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and UAE have enough foreign reserves to afford such investments overseas, other oil producers, e.g. Venezuela, Nigeria and Mexico, have huge foreign debt outstanding and it is unlikely they will be able to borrow to fund downstream expansion plans abroad. There may be as well political constraints that would limit certain Opec countries from acquiring refining outlets in Western markets. Accordingly, even if the downstream expansion plans of the major oil producers materialise, only a small percentage of the world's oil supplies will go through Opec's overseas refineries and petrochemicals by the year 2000. Nevertheless, the division among oil producers in the 1990s would move from Opec and non-Opec to those countries with secure marketing and refining outlets and those who lack such facilities.

**Refining industry**  
The world oil refining industry has been in distress for most of the past 15 years. With a huge surplus of distillation capacity in place, refiners competed to process crude oil at increasingly competitive prices. However, over the past two years, utilisation rates have increased and light product prices firmed up considerably. The strong economic growth experienced by many industrialised countries brought forth higher consumption of transport fuels and other refined products. Furthermore, the general shift towards unleaded gasoline in the US and West Europe has put added pressure on the refineries to produce the lighter petroleum products. Some refiners are finding the cost too high and may soon be forced to close down, adding further to the tightening of the refined product market. Shell, for example, says that its refining capacity world-wide operated at a remarkable 91 per cent utilisation last year while British Petroleum reported 87 per cent. According to the American Petroleum Institute, utilisation of refining capacity in the US reached 90 per cent in June 1989, comparable to levels reached in late 1970s.

Rising US demand for refined product imports which averaged 2.3 mb/d in the first half of 1989 (up 5.1 per cent from first half of 1988), together with the increase in demand of Japan and most Western European countries were behind the recently announced projects for new refineries and expansion of existing ones. According to the Petroleum Economist, the Far East is attracting eleven of the non-communist world's twenty-nine refining

projects, although the Middle East (including Iran and Iraq) has the largest total of new capacity. The additional world refining capacity represents a further increase of 5 per cent by 1992 or so, following the slight increase recorded last year when total capacity was around 74,914 mb/d. With the growth in the consumption of refined products continuing, a further improvement in utilisation rate is expected. However, higher margins could well prompt the construction of more capacity in the coming few years.

The distribution of the world's refining capacity by region at the end of 1988 are: North America and West Europe account for 42 per cent of existing capacity, USSR 16.4 per cent, Japan 6 per cent, Latin America and the Caribbean 10 per cent and Asia Pacific region (other than Japan) 8.2 per cent. The combined refining capacity of the GCC countries does not exceed 3.9 per cent of world's total, while the other Arab countries account for another 3.6 per cent. However, the shift in demand in the OECD markets towards lighter petroleum products renders the contribution of Gulf refineries to the new market trends even smaller. The region's conversion capacity (to process heavy crudes into light products) is only 19.8 per cent of its primary refining capacity. This means there is a need to invest heavily in order to upgrade the conversion facilities of the existing refineries in the region and/or to acquire interest in overseas outlets.

The six GCC states have 19 refineries with a total capacity of around 2.5 mb/d increasing to 3.22 mb/d in early 1990. They combined throughput currently averages 2.5 mb/d, of which nearly 1.5 mb/d are exported at generally less favourable market prices in view of high transportation costs for light and middle distillates. Most of these plants were built in the 1970s, when oil prices were on the rise. Refiners in the region have had to bear in the past few years the cost of transporting light oil products to consumer markets as oil prices are set close to those markets. The freight costs for light and middle distillates have been tight for several years. It is now projected that tanker capacity for such products is likely to lag behind the corresponding world demand over the next 10 years.

The following is a review of the oil refining and export strategies in the GCC states.

**Saudi Arabia**  
Saudi Arabia is the biggest refiner in Opec, with a capacity of 1.58 mb/d (excluding Ras Tanura refinery). Accounting for more than 54 per cent of total GCC capacity, it has four export refineries and five domestic plants. The export refinery at Rabigh on the Red Sea with a capacity of 325,000 b/d will become operational in early 1990. Two of Petrofin's export refineries have individual capacities of 250,000 b/d and are jointly owned (30 per cent) with Mobil at Yanbu and Shell at Jubail. They are both running at full capacity and produce Arabian light crude. The same is true of Aramco's export refinery at Ras Tanura which is running at about 500,000 b/d of heavier crudes and some Arabian light. Saudi Arabia's domestic oil consumption is limited to about 700,000 b/d. This means total exports of refined products will increase from current levels of around 800,000 b/d to 1.125 mb/d by the year 2000. Saudi Arabia's output is sold to the Rotterdam spot market quotations for west-bound shipments, and Singapore quotations for shipments to East of Suez markets. Mobil is marketing the bulk of the Yanbu's output, including most of Petrofin's 50 per cent share. Shell is doing the same for the output of the Jubail refinery. About 300,000 b/d of Ras Tanura's output are bought by Petrofin for domestic consumption, and the remaining 200,000 b/d are marketed by Aramco.

**Kuwait**  
Kuwait has three local refineries in Ahmadi, Mina Abdullah and Shuaiba, able to process up to 725,000 b/d of heavy crude into clean products. All three plants have been upgraded, and Kuwait Petroleum Company (KPC) can market their output within its integrated system world-wide. Product prices are set according to spot quotations, but Kuwait has major advantages over the other export refiners in the Gulf. KPC has its own fleet of eleven tankers to carry light as well as crude oil to any destination, with plans to further upgrade the size of this fleet. This means that the country can capture all the gains in the high freight market for light oil products and offset losses in one area with profits in another.

**UAE**  
Abu Dhabi is the only refiner in the UAE. The emirate has three plants, two at Umm Al-Nar and one at Ruwais, with a total capacity of 195,000 b/d, of which more than 100,000 b/d of products are exported by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and the rest is sold to the government of Bahrain. ADNOC is examining the feasibility of increasing by about 30 per cent the capacity of its 120,000 b/d Ruwais refinery. In Dubai, the local government has decided to back the proposed 120,000 b/d refinery which Reliance Industries limited of India wants to build in the Jebel Ali area. The government of Bahrain is also examining the feasibility of increasing by about 30 per cent the capacity of its 120,000 b/d Ruwais refinery. In Dubai, the local government has decided to back the proposed 120,000 b/d refinery which Reliance Industries limited of India wants to build in the Jebel Ali area. The government of Bahrain is also examining the feasibility of increasing by about 30 per cent the capacity of its 120,000 b/d Ruwais refinery.

**Bahrain**  
The Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO) has been operating its refinery at close to 95 per cent of its 275,000 b/d capacity. This includes the refining of around 43,000 b/d of Bahraini crude oil production and around 225,000 b/d of Saudi light crude pumped through a pipeline to Bapco. The refinery which was built following the first discovery of oil on the Arabian side of the Gulf in 1934, is owned 60 per cent by the government of Bahrain and 40 per cent by Caltex. The proposed modernisation plan of the refinery envisages the installation of a hydrocracker to improve yields of high-value products such as gasoline, naphtha and kerosene.

**Qatar**  
Qatar has two refineries at Umm Said with a total capacity of 62,000 b/d. The older plant with a capacity of 12,000 b/d, was re-opened recently and is now meeting a major part of domestic requirement. The newer refinery built in 1983 which has been operating close to its full capacity of 50,000 b/d is being expanded to produce an additional 12,000 b/d of lead-free gasoline and other clean products. Domestic consumption averages about 12,000 b/d, while the rest of the output is exported at competitive market prices.

**Oman**  
Oman has one refinery at Fahal built in 1962 with a total capacity of 80,000 b/d sup-

plying mostly the local market, with only a small volume being exported.

**Gulf overseas activities**  
The major Gulf oil producing countries, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and UAE have a common strategy to establish an integrated transnational oil industry. Between them they have the capacity to produce more than 10.5 mb/d with proven oil reserves exceeding 45 per cent of the world's total. They need to secure stable outlets for their crude oil, given the expectation that over-supply conditions would prevail in the world oil markets well into the 1990s. They want to share in the refining and marketing profits as prices of oil products generally fall below the price of crude. Besides, they would like to seize investment opportunities in downstream ventures abroad and gain management and marketing expertise in the US, Europe and the Far East oil consuming markets.

During the second half of the 1970s and early 1980s, oil exporting developing countries had few commercial incentives for downstream integration, especially internationally. Marketing of crude oil was not a serious concern while long term contracts and official prices were rarely jeopardised in the market place. The Gulf countries did embark on downstream investments, mostly domestically, in an attempt to diversify economic structure and create employment opportunities. However, value added to their crude oil production and satisfy domestic demand for refined product. Certain refineries in the region were also built for export purposes, however the primary motivation was domestic spending and income distribution rather than the creation of alternative outlets for crude oil.

With the shift in market conditions that surfaced in 1983, the situation changed considerably. Since then, over-supplied crude oil markets and volatile prices have encouraged major crude oil buyers to constantly shift from one supplier to another while the market for long term contracts at fixed prices shrank dramatically.

Exporting refined products at market prices and selling crude on the basis of net back deals with major companies helped offset, at least partly, this loss of marketing and pricing flexibility. However, product exports have proved to be commercially inferior to ownership of downstream assets in consuming countries, not only because it is much more expensive to transport refined products than crude oil, but also because without direct access to distribution networks, the producers had to be sold wholesale. The net-back deals also proved less efficient and Gulf strategists realised it made more sense to acquire rather than just hire the services of market related refineries. Thus the emphasis shifted towards integrating crude oil production with existing overseas downstream operations.

Oil consumers would undoubtedly welcome the downstream trend of the major oil producers. They too want secure, long term supplies that would reduce the drainage on their domestic reserves. With expensive overseas refineries and petrol stations to feed, Opec producers who own these outlets will be compelled, both economically and politically, to maintain the flow of crude oil to their subsidiaries or joint ventures abroad. They will have a stake in the refining and marketing of the oil importing countries. They would be careful not to allow their market share in a consuming country to grow too large, in order not to be subject to anti-monopoly laws. Naturally, they will not try to jeopardise their own investments, and in the unlikely event that an adverse situation develops, foreign oil producers may risk having their assets abroad seized or controlled. Inflows of equity investments are always more a gesture of trust than threat, trust that the assets will produce a dividend, and trust in the jurisdiction under which those assets exist. Besides, the consuming countries are the ones enjoying the benefits of employment from these investments.

From the refiners perspective, there is also a strong motivation to enter into joint ventures with crude oil suppliers. Over-supply and the competitive nature of the refining industry, along with highly volatile crude oil prices have made it imperative for a refiner to have access to attractively priced crude oil supplies and to keep production rates near maximum capacity. Allowing foreign producers to buy equity in domestic refineries would encourage capital inflow to the country and provide companies with an opportunity to sell unprofitable refineries. Over-capacity continues to dominate the refining industry in Western Europe, Japan and the US. Japan has a capacity of 4.3 mb/d with utilisation running at 30 per cent below full capacity, while 25 per cent of Western Europe's refineries and 10 per cent of America's are still idle. Much of this capacity may be upgraded during the next decade, but a good part of it could be sold to Opec producers instead of shutting it down completely.

The Gulf countries differ in their downstream investment strategies abroad. While Kuwait undertook full ownership, operation and management of integrated refining and marketing systems, Saudi Arabia followed the partnership approach, whereby foreign acquisitions are jointly managed without changing the local names of the downstream ventures. The foreign partner is called upon to provide local know-how in the market concerned. Such an arrangement is perceived to neutralise any possible hostility that may arise when an Opec member enters the downstream market abroad. It will also promote a linkage between the interests of oil producers and oil consumers. Abu Dhabi opted to acquire minority equity positions and associated crude oil supply contracts with foreign partners.

The partnership between Saudi Arabia and Texaco, initiated in 1988, gives the Kingdom a guaranteed market in the US for 615,000 b/d of crude oil exports, the biggest overseas market for any Opec country. It also provides Saudi Arabia with a guaranteed market in the US for 615,000 b/d of crude oil exports, the biggest overseas market for any Opec country. It also provides Saudi Arabia with a guaranteed market in the US for 615,000 b/d of crude oil exports, the biggest overseas market for any Opec country. It also provides Saudi Arabia with a guaranteed market in the US for 615,000 b/d of crude oil exports, the biggest overseas market for any Opec country.

The deal with Texaco seems to set the pattern for Saudi Arabia's overseas partnerships. The aim is to acquire additional refining and distribution facilities in the major oil consuming countries that would provide secure

outlets for a sizeable part for Saudi crude oil production that could reach a target of up to 4 mb/d by the turn of the century. Preference is for equity buying, paid for mostly in crude oil rather than cash, into the operations of Aramco's four major counterparts not only in the US, but also in West Europe and the Far East, and it will be in the form of partnership rather than full ownership. Such a strategy would eventually enable the national oil company of Saudi Arabia to become one of the largest world integrated giants by the year 2000.

According to the Arab Press Service Review, Saudi Arabia has been negotiating for downstream joint venture with other major international oil companies such as Exxon and Mobil for facilities in Europe and with Caltex in East of Suez markets. The Kingdom has also been exploring similar opportunities with the national oil companies like Total and Elf Aquitaine of France, ENI of Italy and Nippon Oil of Japan. These companies are interested in securing future crude oil entitlement at reasonable prices while their downstream operations fit the Saudi strategy. The deals with Malaysia and Indonesia whereby Saudi crude would be processed by new export refineries they are building, represent another step in that direction.

Kuwait has insisted on full acquisition of major overseas assets. The strategy is for Kuwait Petroleum Company (KPC) to function freely as an integrated entity like Exxon or Shell. Kuwait's 9.9 per cent stake in British Petroleum (BP) is an example. The country's downstream assets include the 1983 purchase of Gulf Oil's European Operations, which gave the country two refineries with a capacity of 225,000 b/d, around 4,650 petrol stations together with a number of other oil facilities in Scandinavia, the Benelux countries, the UK and Italy (table 4). Kuwait has currently about 23 per cent of Denmark's retail market in gasoline, the highest for any of the local firms, 12 per cent in Luxembourg, 11 per cent in Belgium, 11 per cent in Sweden, 4 per cent in Italy, 2 per cent in the UK and a small share of the Spanish and French markets. Kuwait Petroleum Company (KPC) sells gasoline in Europe under the "Q8" brand synonymous with Kuwait.

Kuwait intends to double its overseas refining and distribution outlets to 500,000 b/d, in addition to its local refining capacity of about 700,000 b/d. In the coming few years the country will concentrate on the Far East (with emphasis on Japan) and on the US market. It has several aviation fuelling operations at several airports in the US, Europe and the Far East. It is projected that by the year 2000, KPC will become one of the trans-oceanic giants, producing 2mb/d (including 200,000 b/d from its fields outside Kuwait) and accounting for 4 per cent of the non-communist world's total oil supplies projected to be around 50m b/d, compared with about 10 per cent in the case of Shell and about 20 per cent for the National Oil Company of Saudi Arabia.

The strategic objective of Abu Dhabi, the only emirate in the UAE seeking refining outlets overseas, is to have up to 500,000 b/d of its crude oil production integrated vertically with downstream operations in Europe, the US and the Far East by the mid 1990s. Up till now however they have only managed to get two European deals. In 1988, Abu Dhabi's International Petroleum Investment Company (IPIC) a joint venture between Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), acquired a 10 per cent equity in Compania Espanola de Petrol (Cepsa), the biggest among Spain's private oil companies. ADNOC would supply the Spanish Company with 60,000 b/d of crude oil, about one third of the capacity of Cepsa's three refineries. IPIC, which initially wanted a 20 per cent equity, was given 10 per cent on Cepsa's board and a promise to secure the approval of the Spanish government for an increase of Abu Dhabi's stake.

ADIA also acquired almost 10 per cent interest in France's Compagnie Francaise de Petroles (CFP - Total), with plans to raise the stake to 20 per cent. Total is the partner of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company in several ventures and has a 20 per cent stake in the oil requirements from ADNOC. Total can eventually help market Abu Dhabi's oil product in Europe. The Emirate is now considering equity acquisitions in refining companies in the Far East and the US.

For the other three Gulf states, Oman, Qatar and Bahrain, a similar pattern may unfold involving tie-ups with more significant international oil companies. Oman has no downstream ventures abroad, however it is seriously considering acquiring minority interests in certain US refineries. Qatar's future lies mainly in exploiting its extensive reserves of natural gas. In recent years, Qatar has been developing close oil industry ties with Kuwait, and it would be logical if these were to be solidified into an agreement in which Kuwait provided guaranteed marketing outlets for at least a proportion of Qatari oil production. Bahrain's modest oil output of 43,000 b/d together with 70,000 b/d of its half share of Abu Saafa oilfield are marketed by Banoco, the Bahrain National Oil Company. Marketing of future oil products especially after the modernisation of the refinery will continue to be handled by Banoco.

A new trend to bring crude oil exports from the Gulf closer to the main oil consumer centres has surfaced recently with Saudi Arabia negotiating the supply of crude to the US's Energy Department's Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) on a long lease basis. The SPR currently holds 575 million barrels of crude oil in a series of underground salt caverns in Louisiana and Texas. The target is to raise the reserve to 750 million barrels with a possible increase of one billion barrels. Around 94 per cent of the oil already purchased has been imported, with Mexico supplying around half of the total and the UK the second largest supplier. At the current fill rate of about 60,000 b/d, it would take 18 years to reach the higher target.

The principal idea behind the deal would be to have low-cost rented oil leased at low-cost storage facilities Saudi Arabia would acquire additional revenue without surpassing its Opec quota or exerting additional downward pressure on oil prices, while at the same time it would enhance its strategic relations with the US and add a further element to oil price stability. The US on its part, would further strengthen its overall energy security and rent oil at nominal rather than market prices, hence decreasing both its budget and current account deficits. However, many questions remain to be answered, including the annual rent of the oil, the duration of the lease, and to reconcile between the Saudi ownership of the crude leased and US control once the crude has been pumped into the reserve.



## Red Sea oil spill case

Israeli sea captain Joseph Tzvi (left) refuses to be photographed as he leaves a court room in the Sinai desert town of El Tur on Saturday. Tzvi appeared before the Egyptian court as he is accused of spilling oil in the Red Sea on Oct 17. Right is Eli Shaked, an official from the Israeli embassy in Cairo, who was accompanying Tzvi. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Hawke pledges free trade

CANBERRA, Nov 5, (Reuters): Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke inaugurated a new Asia-Pacific economic organisation today, saying it would fight for free world trade rather than erect a regional trading bloc.

Addressing some 30 ministers from 12 Asian and Pacific rim nations gathered for two days of talks, Hawke said the meeting was an historic breakthrough and a statement of regional self-confidence.

"We are participants in an unprecedented, vital experiment in international consultation," he said. "This is the first time the region has met as a region."

The meeting brings together Japan and the United States with Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Korea and the six ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) states — Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Hawke said one key role that would be played by the new body would be to strengthen the fight against global protectionism in current negotiations within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

"Let it be clearly understood that we do not meet here today with any hidden agenda to create some sort of Pacific trading bloc," he said.

The structure, shape and membership of the new body to be known as the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Council, are still far from clear.

ASEAN nations expressed doubts about the need for a new body which might usurp their own role but were assured by Washington and Tokyo that neither would seek to dominate and that all decisions would be made by consensus.

US officials said they saw the emergence of Apec as symbolising a decisive swing of economic power away from the Atlantic to the Pacific. "We want to be part of the future and this is the future," one said.

The English-language China Daily said the National People's Congress, China's parliament, is planning to adopt stringent new laws based on Western input. Gu Ming, chairman of the China economic law research institute, said counterfeiting, marketing of inferior quality products, have all become a problem in the country.

## China seeks foreign help

BEIJING, Nov 5, (UPI): Chinese leaders are seeking the help of US and Western experts to combat counterfeiting and copyright violations flourishing in its troubled economy, press reports said yesterday.

The talks broke off exactly one month after some 57,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers walked off their jobs in the Puget Sound Area, in Portland, Oregon, and in Wichita, Kansas over union demands to increase base pay and reduce the amount of overtime required of workers.

## Economic talks end in deadlock

### US favours open policy

WASHINGTON, Nov 5, (AP): The US government renewed its pledge to keep the country open to Japanese investment as a semi-annual economic meeting between the two nations ended yesterday without major breakthroughs on trade issues.

The Bush administration's team of sub-cabinet officials again pressed Japan to open its markets to a greater variety of American goods, including supercomputers and forest products.

It also made clear the administration favours an open investment policy on both sides of the Pacific, said chief US negotiator Richard T. McCormack.

McCormack, undersecretary of state for economic affairs, sought to calm the anxiety of his Japanese counterparts about the alarm expressed by some members of Congress over recent purchases of US companies and other properties by investors in Japan.

Examples include the Sony Corp.'s acquisition of Columbia Pictures and Mitsubishi Real Estate's purchase of Rockefeller Centre in New York City.

President George Bush's administration believes that, as a debtor nation, the United States should welcome the influx of capital from abroad.

"We think the United States benefits from foreign investments — but an important part of that is encouraging other countries to open their own investment climates," said McCormack.

Deputy Foreign Minister Koji Watanabe, who led the Japanese team during the two-day round of talks, said "there is a perception that the Japanese market is closed" to US investors.

"Actually, there are very, very few restrictions imposed by the government on incoming investments," Watanabe acknowledged, however, that current exchange rates and Japanese stock prices, viewed as artificially high by Americans, serve to discourage US investors.

Though no specific progress was reported by either side concerning US demands that Japan relax its curbs against certain

American products, each team expressed optimism for future agreements.

"We managed in the past to resolve the tobacco question, the telecommunications question," said Watanabe. "We can manage to resolve the others, because the pain of not doing so will be greater than the pain of doing so."

Both teams pointed to recent improvements in the huge US trade deficit, which declined 22 per cent last year and, according to McCormack, is down a further seven per cent so far this year. American exports to Japan, said Watanabe, are up by 18.8 per cent, or an increase of 10 billion, compared to last year.

Watanabe said also that 10 firms from the US construction industry, which has long complained about being virtually shut out from Japan, have landed contracts worth \$400 million in recent months.

Japan and the United States agreed today to establish 14 new air passenger and cargo routes between the two countries beginning in October 1990, expected to further open the skies to United, American and Delta airlines, the Transport Ministry announced.

The ministry said the accord, the first opening of new air routes between the nations since April 1985, was reached after week-long talks in Tokyo and will be formally signed tomorrow.

New passenger routes include six between Japan and the United States, two from new Japanese points and Guam and Saipan, and one between a Japanese point, other than Tokyo and Osaka, to Alaska, the ministry said in a statement.

US airlines to serve the new passenger routes have yet to be named, the announcement said.

But United Airlines has expressed hope to fly the Chicago-Tokyo route, American Airlines to serve San Jose, California-Tokyo and Delta Airlines, Honolulu-Tokyo.

Japan's second largest international carrier, All Nippon Airways (ANA), would inaugurate a Tokyo-Honolulu route under the accord, the ministry said.

## US fusion research

### Panel: no funds

WASHINGTON, Nov 5, (UPI): A US Energy Department panel is recommending against establishment of a cold fusion research centre but suggests the government support more experiments into the startling phenomenon, it was disclosed on Friday.

In a draft report, the advisory panel found no conclusive proof nuclear fusion occurred at room temperature in a laboratory, as reported in March by University of Utah researchers Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann. Pons and Fleischmann asked Congress for \$25 million for the research centre at the university.

But Pons defended his work Friday, saying, "any device that puts out continuous energy at the rate of a nuclear fission reactor ... I don't know how you can say it's not a possible power source."

Although it recommended against a research centre, the cold fusion panel of the energy research advisory board said it is "sympathetic toward modest support for carefully focused and co-operative experiments within the present funding system."

## Angry Boeing negotiators walk out

SEATTLE, Nov 5, (UPI): Angry union negotiators for striking Boeing machinists walked out of a contract negotiating session in disgust yesterday, saying the company's revised offer was no better than the one that led to the strike.

The talks broke off exactly one month after some 57,000 members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers walked off their jobs in the Puget Sound Area, in Portland, Oregon, and in Wichita, Kansas over union demands to increase base pay and reduce the amount of overtime required of workers.

Tom Baker, president of the Iam Lodge 751, called the negotiations a "charade" and a "slap in the face," while Boeing negotiators called on the union leaders to submit the revised offer to the rank-and-file machinists for a vote.

As expected, Boeing did not raise its wage package, which remained an offer of pay raises of 4, 3 and 3 per cent over the next three years. However, the company raised its annual bonuses — a one-time payout usually right before Christmas — from the original 8-3-0 per cent offer to 10 per cent in the first year and 4 per cent in the second and third years.







## Questions persist over long-term safety of enlargement

## Breast implants: You may be planting a time bomb

WASHINGTON, Nov 5, (Reuters): Each year about 130,000 American women undergo breast enlargement surgery but new research suggests they may be planting a time bomb in their bodies.

The plastic sacs of silicone gel used to enlarge the bust may trigger serious side-effects for some women that will not appear until long after the procedure is performed.

While some women have breast implants after cancer surgery, the vast majority — about 85 per cent of the total — seek the operation solely for cosmetic reasons, says the US Food and Drug Administration.

An estimated two million US women have already had the operation, making

breast enlargement the most popular form of plastic surgery, according to the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons.

Unfortunately, the implants may cause serious side effects and studies indicate these may not appear until 10 to 15 years or more after the surgery.

In some cases, excessive scar tissue has been found to build up around the implant, making the reconstructed breast unnaturally hard, causing pain and requiring surgical removal.

A new type of implant, a polyurethane foam-coated model marketed in Canada under the name Meme, is said to get around

the hardening problem. But the foam dissolves into the body over time, with unknown long-term health effects.

Then there is the question of whether the implants are linked to an increase risk of breast cancer.

While there is scant evidence of such a link at present, a complication is that doctors have a tougher time diagnosing cancer in a woman who has had an implant.

According to a June 1988 article in the Archives of Surgery, an implant "reduces the ability of mammography, our best diagnostic tool, to visualise breast (tissue)."

As a result, researchers found that cancer patients with implants had more advanced

disease and a worse prognosis at the time of their diagnosis than patients without implants.

Finally, there is the question of sclerosis, a sometimes fatal hardening of the body's so-called connective tissues, which include the skin, artery walls and the nervous system.

Recent articles in the Journal of the American Medical Association and the Annals of Internal Medicine report cases of sclerosis in a small number of breast implant patients and suggest there may be a relationship, although the studies caution that this has not yet been shown.

"Based on our own experience, because

of the small number of women we've studied, we cannot imply any cause and effect relationship at this time. I think what we're suggesting is that this needs to be studied," says one of the researchers, Dr. John Varga of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

Would Varga advise against breast enlargement?

"I would certainly not advise a woman not to get a breast implant if that is her desire," he responds.

"The more relevant question is: What is a woman to do with implants and early signs of connective tissue disease? In this situation, a number of women have chosen to

have their implants removed."

Dr. Garry Brody, a Los Angeles plastic surgeon also involved in research, defends the programme.

"Sure, nobody can see into the future, but we have a 25-year experience here. There's a possibility (of a link between implants and cancer and sclerosis) but one had to lean on information one already has, and there's just no real solid evidence to support a connection."

The Food and Drug Administration has outlined an ambitious research programme to better evaluate the risks. But agency officials concede it will take 10 to 15 years of additional research to get the answers.

## Another Australia in India each year

## 'Doomsday warnings don't go down'

NEW DELHI, India, Nov 5, (AP): A gold-plated clock in a darkened hall of a government hospital ticks quietly. It isn't marking time, but the number of Indian babies born.

After a minute, the clock hits 50. Within an hour 3,000. By day's end 72,000 babies have been born, and 70,000 of those survive. Within a year, 17 million babies have been added to India's population.

"It's like adding another Australia," said Ashish Bose, a population expert and outspoken critic of the Health and Family Welfare Ministry, which oversees the nation's birth control programme.

India was among the first to launch a government-sponsored family planning programme. Since 1951, when the programme was set up, the government has tried almost everything to check

population growth, from cafeteria-like clinics distributing contraceptives to alleged forced sterilisations during the 1975-77 state of emergency.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was assassinated in 1984, imposed the state of emergency to try to quiet her opposition. After the emergency was lifted, Mrs Gandhi was defeated in parliamentary elections, largely because of the sterilisation scandal.

More than 30 billion rupees (\$1.80 billion) has been pumped into family planning programmes in the past decade, three times the amount of the previous 30 years. But India's population still has mushroomed to 880 million, and the rapidly multiplying numbers are the single biggest factor inhibiting economic and social development.

According to government

demographers, India's average annual population growth peaked in 1981 at 2.25 per cent and has since declined to 2.12 per cent.

But even at the current rate, the government's planning commission predicts, India's population will hit one billion by the turn of the century and rise to 1.7 billion by the year 2035, probably surpassing China as the world's most populous country.

Already India is twice as densely populated as China, which has 1.2 billion people. The pressure is intolerable on the environment, cities and basic services like water and electricity.

Earlier this year, the planning commission spelled out the dangers of unchecked population growth, citing falling food production, environmental damage, rising illiteracy and unemployment, and worsening

social tensions.

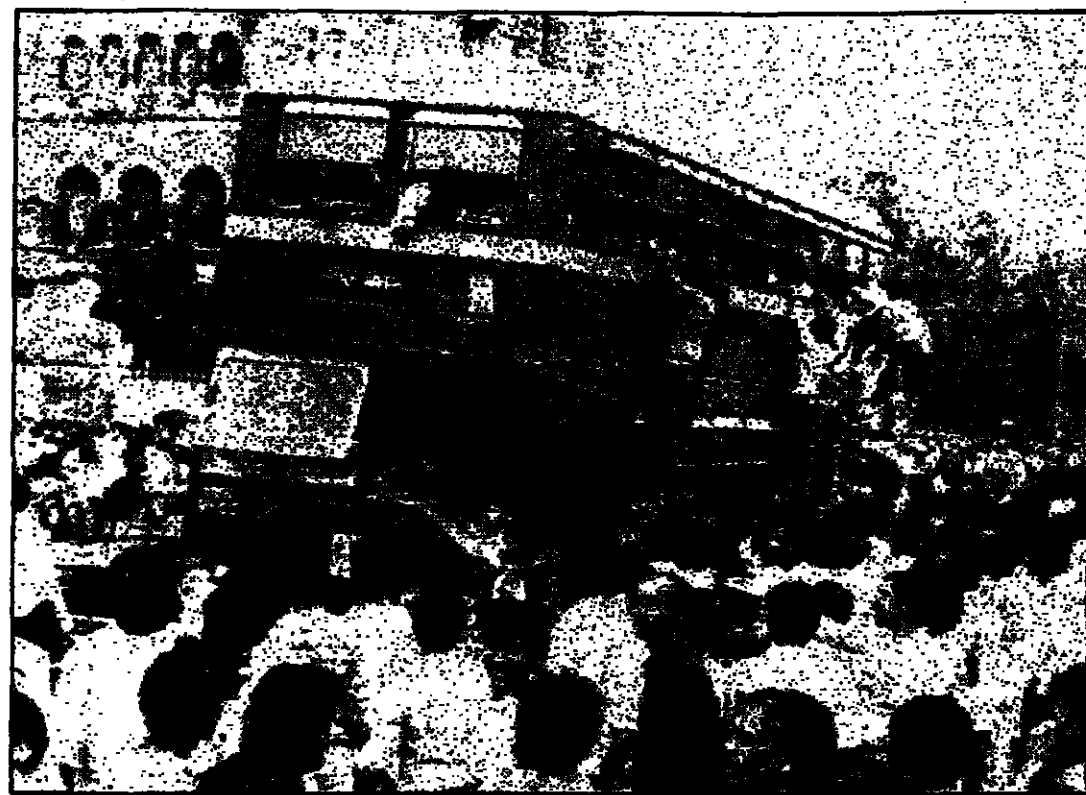
But such apocalyptic visions have little impact.

"Doomsday warnings don't go down in India because of their philosophy of life and what they have gone through," said George Wamsley of the United Nations Population Fund.

Family planning got a bad name in India during the mid-1970s, when allegations of forced sterilisations caused a backlash that still lingers.

When Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi took the helm in 1984, his government launched new programmes with catchy slogans. Every year 800 million condoms are distributed in India and up to five million men and women are sterilised. But after five years, there has been no sign of dramatic change.

Gandhi acknowledges the government's programmes have



People climb aboard a bus that was stranded in a crowd during a power blackout in Bombay.

(Reuters wirephoto)

failed to check population growth. He says the national programme should be replaced with plans tailored for specific regions, but so far the government has presented nothing concrete.

Opposition politicians trying to oust Rajiv and his Congress Party in this month's parliamentary elections have offered proposals to control population,

but they shy away from discussing details.

The problems go much deeper than the lack of public enthusiasm and shortage of people to implement a comprehensive family programme in ethnically and linguistically diverse India.

Religious customs, traditions and teachings in the Hindu-dominated country reject the concept of family planning.

Most people believe the birth of a child is a gift from God and to do anything against the natural course would displease the almighty.

Male superiority and the importance of a son also are factors.

"I need two sons. Otherwise, who will carry on the family name? Who will help me in the fields? Who will look after me in

my old age, and who will lift my funeral pyre?" said Datta Mal Jain at his village near Jaipur in Rajasthan state.

Additional hands to work mean additional income for impoverished people, who do not know how many of their children will survive. One out of every 10 Indian babies dies within the first year of tetanus, diarrhoea, diphtheria or whooping cough.

Improved health services and eradication of famines and major epidemics have lowered the country's overall mortality rate. The average Indian now lives to the age of 58, compared with 32 when India became independent from Britain 1947.

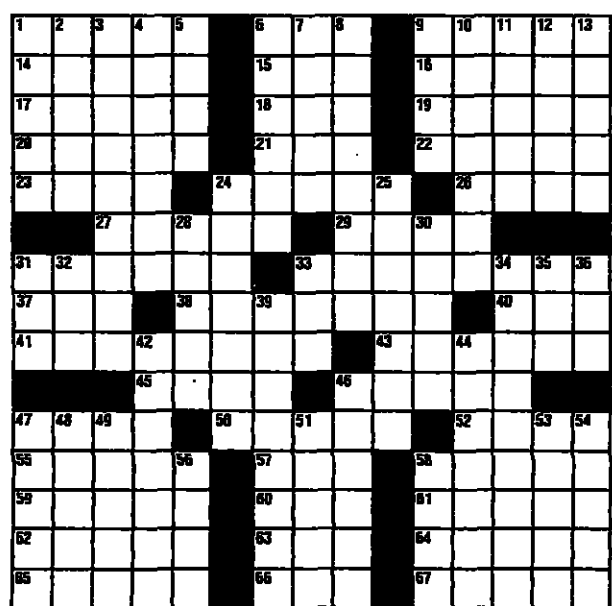
But overall statistics disguise huge differences between regions. The southern state of Kerala, where literacy and women's status are high, has the lowest growth rate in the country at 1.53 per cent, while northern Haryana state is the highest at 2.56.

Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan in the north and Madhya Pradesh in central India also have exploding populations combined with some of the country's worst poverty and social conditions.

India's social and religious traditions subordinating women are strongest in these states. Infant mortality is high, female literacy, employment and marriage age are low and acceptance of family planning is poor.

Before the sterilisation scandal, 80 per cent of operations were carried out on men. Today 80 per cent are on women.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- Shy
  - Haul
  - Church areas
  - Native of Tehran
  - "Surprise!"
  - Part of Moslem law
  - By itself
  - Grappling surface
  - Dostoyevski title, with "The"
  - Cuts
  - Part of to be
  - Confuse
  - Bigfoot of Asia
  - Rouser
  - Pium role
  - Furious
  - Reveal
  - Building material
  - Took a rest
  - Tar's yes
  - Reno resident
  - Silkworm
  - Held in contempt
  - Shove off
  - Latvian
  - Foundation
  - Aleutian Island
  - Antioxin
  - "Moonstruck" actress
  - Ballet birds
  - Aunt or Uncle
  - Shoulder warmer
  - Ink, in Berlin
  - Completely
  - Angler's supply
  - Mystery writer
  - Howard
  - Signifying a maiden name
  - Build
- DOWN
- Blotto
  - Dancing Castle
  - Canadian provinces, with "The"
  - Uplift
  - Irae
  - Cantina snack
  - "Pal Joey" author
  - Modern sleeping surface
  - One of seven
  - Skip these on a rainy day
  - Shiv
  - Disparaging
  - "— Gay"
  - historic plane
  - Filled to repletion
  - Swears

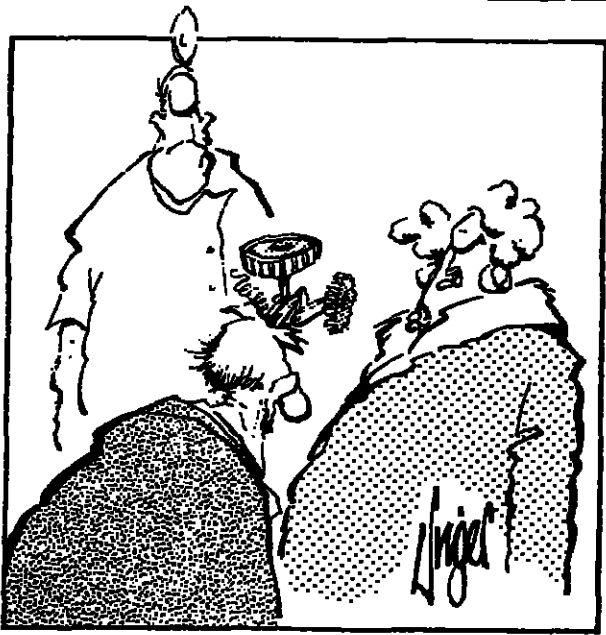
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ETIONS ALPS DCS  
DELIA TOOT GOAL  
WALLFLOWER DONA  
SALAAMS IGOROT  
RMS PAIR KEY  
BOCCIE CREASE  
ISLA SHOE AGES  
PHOTO TELEGRAPHY  
ASTA LANA LEAD  
EYRIES SWARMS  
LET ERN SPA  
IMPEDE STAIRS  
SELL FLOORBOARD  
ZEAL USAR LITER  
TRY LURE ELISIE

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AKQ93 ♠A5 ♦K109 ♣874  
What is your opening bid?
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AK6 ♥KQ10543 ♦85 ♣A6  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠76 ♥3 ♦AQ1093 ♣KQJ42  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♣ Pass  
2 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass  
What do you bid now?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ74 ♥7 ♦J8753 ♣1096  
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ743 ♥J875 ♦7 ♣1096  
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠753 ♥64 ♦K75432 ♣84  
Partner opens the bidding with two no trump. What do you respond?



"He's always had a vivid imagination."



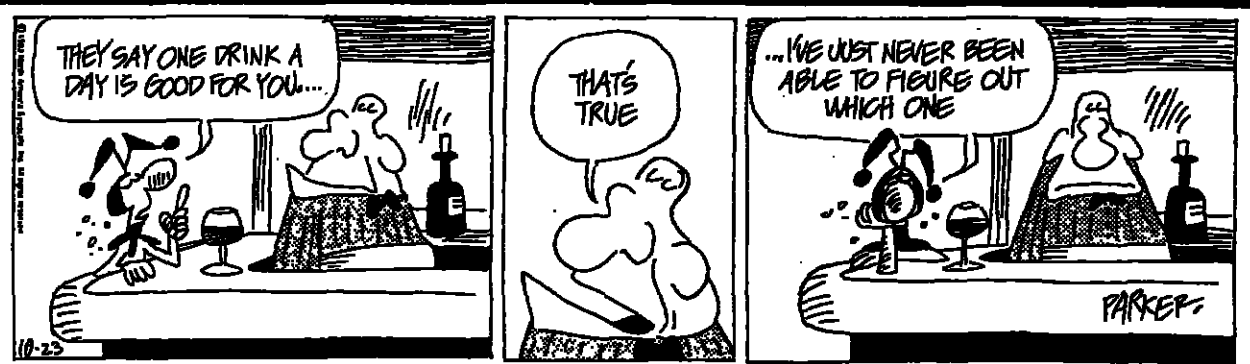
"I wonder why they asked us to stand by at the reading of a will?"



"Yes, she may well be beautiful, but she's completely ruined our honeymoon!"

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have something to be pleased about. You will be able to make excellent progress. Do not let a small matter become blow up out of proportion. Be reasonable.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will not be in the best of moods and should try to control yourself. Avoid any food that is too spicy or oily. There is no time to waste. Be prudent.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be in high spirits and must make sure they do not overflow. Something that is important to you will go well. Do not wait any longer — if you do it may be too late. Be kind.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will have to work hard if you want to meet your commitments. Avoid allowing yourself to be distracted. Show just a little more goodwill towards others. Be courteous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will have to work hard if you do not want to fall behind. You are beginning to run out of patience but you would do well not to do so quite yet. Try to avoid negative thoughts. Be magnanimous.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to have an interesting day but you should not neglect certain chores that have to be done. Your lucky numbers are 8 and 32. Try not to think negatively. Do not believe you are the only person who matters in the world.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

The moon's better influence will help you to avoid a pitfall. You are beginning to run out of patience but you would do well not to do so quite yet. Try to avoid negative thoughts. Be magnanimous.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

Something that you have been trying to do will not succeed. You should try a different approach. Have just a little more faith in yourself. Be respectful.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You are more liable to make mistakes and should look out for them. Do not rely on luck even though you may have some. Take better care of your health. Be moderate.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)

You will tend to be rather excitable and should try to control yourself. You will be able to make the right decision and should act upon it too. Do not turn back on change. Be careful.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

You will tend to find fault with others and they may return the "compliment." You should do your best to think constructively. Try not to spend too much time in isolation. Be reliable.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You should not do the first thing that comes to your mind, nor act on impulse. Keep your wits a little more about you. Listen closely to what others are saying. Be less belligerent.



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# Prost withdraws, Senna crashes Boutsen wins Australian GP



Prost sticks his tongue out at reporters. (Reuter wirephoto).

ADELAIDE, Nov 5. (Reuter): Belgium's Thierry Boutsen ploughed through torrential rain today to win the Australian Grand Prix in a race marred by the angry withdrawal of world champion Alain Prost and the crash of his bitter rival Ayrton Senna.

Boutsen, driving a Williams, claimed his second Grand Prix of the season after one of the most sensational days in the 39-year history of Formula One racing. Italy's Alessandro Nannini followed up his controversial victory in Japan two weeks ago by finishing second in his Benetton. Ricardo Patrese of Italy was third and the result clinched him third place in the championship table.

Newly-crowned world champion Alain Prost, in his last appearance for McLaren, drove out of the race after just one lap and stormed into his team's building in protest at being forced to drive in heavy rain.

The downpour caused a series of spectacular crashes and spins before the race was temporarily halted on lap two.

After a 25-minute break, dur-



Prost and Senna at the start of the race. (Reuter wirephoto).

ing which it appeared some of the other 25 drivers might refuse to restart the last Grand Prix of the 1989 season, the race began again with Prost's place on the front of the grid vacant.

The Frenchman's teammate and rival Ayrton Senna made the most of pole position to build up a lead of 30 seconds as behind him the world's most experien-

ced drivers aquaplaned to disaster on huge puddles and, blinded by sheets of spray, smashed into each other.

On Lap 14, the Brazilian also fell victim to the weather when he lost his left front wheel after ramming the back of Briton Martin Brundle's car.

Senna, second here last year, still managed to drive back to the

pits with just three wheels.

Prost, whose relationship with Senna has completely collapsed, blamed the 1988 world champion for preventing the race from being stopped completely by a driver boycott. He and several other drivers told officials at the start it was too dangerous to race.

"All of the drivers were agreed not to race except one and that is Senna. It is a pity he would not agree," Prost told reporters.

Senna desperately wanted to win his seventh race of the season after his protest against disqualification from the Japanese Grand Prix and ensuing dispute with Formula One authorities which overshadowed the run-up to Adelaide.

He had to win in Suzuka and Adelaide to claim his second successive world title but a crash with Prost led to the disqualification, a heavy fine and six-month ban, suspended for six months.

As Boutsen and Patrese tussled for the lead Nigel Mansell, yet to finish an Australian Grand Prix, spun on a corner and bounced once before smacking a tyre-cushioned barrier.

## Coventry enjoy springing surprises

LONDON, Nov 5. (Reuter): Coventry just love to spring surprises.

Few expected them to beat favourites Tottenham to the English FA Cup two years ago and few would have tipped veteran Cyril Regis to engineer a shock defeat of mighty Liverpool in the League yesterday.

By contrast with the big names at Liverpool, Regis has had a modest international career — five England caps spread over six years with his last appearance being as a substitute in a friendly against Turkey two years ago.

But to Coventry fans the modest, 31-year-old striker is a superstar.

He helped them to win the FA Cup against the odds on their first appearance in the final in 1987 and his single goal against Liverpool enabled Coventry to break an Anfield jinx that had lasted for 22 visits.

In that time, Coventry had never won a League match at Liverpool's ground, losing 19 and drawing three.

"I'm very proud of the boys," said manager John Silleet. "We had a little plan and they kept it to the letter. I have always said this is the best side Coventry City have ever had."

"At the end it was like the Alamo," said goalkeeper Steve Ogilvie, who like Regis was in the Cup-winning side. "We played some great stuff today — probably the best we have played this season."

"We have been stuffed (at Anfield) so many times we



Charleton's Carl Leagum (left) tries to take the ball from Bryan Robson of Manchester United during Saturday's English First Division match. Charleton won 2-0. (Reuter wirephoto)

thought we try something different."

"Though the victory did little for Coventry's own League hopes — they moved up three places to ninth — it has opened up the title fight and left Liverpool in unusually contemplative mood."

"We won't accept that as a standard of performance for this club," said Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish.

"I think Coventry deserved to win but we are more concerned with our own side and trying to get that right and it wasn't right today."

Chelsea leapfrogged to the top of the First Division thanks to a 4-0 win against Millwall with Kerry Dixon bolstering his argument for a place in England's World Cup squad by scoring twice. Kevin Wilson supplied the other two goals.

But with former leaders Everton playing Aston Villa today, Chelsea's glory was expected to last less than 24 hours.

Defending champions Arsenal

drew level on points with Liverpool after a 4-3 victory over Norwich which descended into a brawl between the two teams after a disputed penalty.

Referee George Tyson had to pull the players apart when fighting broke out after he awarded an injury-time penalty to Arsenal.

Norwich goalkeeper Bryan Gunn saved the penalty shot from Lee Dixon but the Arsenal player scored with the rebound to give his side victory.

Norwich manager Dave Stricker refused to talk about the penalty. "I won't comment on the referee and his decisions — I will leave that to everyone else," he said tersely.

Scotland's big match between champions Rangers and their Glasgow rivals Celtic also ended in dramatic style with Mo Johnston, ex-Celtic player and the subject of much controversy during the summer, scoring the winner for Rangers in the 88th minute.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

### Colorado outlast Nebraska

NEW YORK, Nov 5. (AP): The Colorado Buffaloes are paying tribute to Sal Aunese in a truly special way.

Aunese, the team's former quarterback, died of cancer Sept 23, and his teammates have dedicated the season to him.

They couldn't be doing a better job. Yesterday, the second ranked Buffaloes virtually clinched an Orange Bowl berth and the Big Eight title as they stopped two late drives by No 3 Nebraska to beat the Cornhuskers 27-21.

Colorado is 5-0 in the Big Eight, with games remaining at Oklahoma State and Kansas State. The Buffaloes will be heavily favored to win both and make their first trip to Miami since the 1976 season.

The victory, which gave Colorado its first 9-0 record since 1923, was only the Buffaloes' second over Nebraska in their last 22 meetings. The Cornhuskers lost for the first time this season after eight wins.

No. 1 Notre Dame 41, Navy 0

Notre Dame tied a school record with its 21st consecutive victory and recorded its first shutout in six years.

The Irish (9-0) beat Navy for the 26th consecutive time since 1963. Notre Dame rushed for 414 yards and five touchdowns and held the Midshipmen (2-6) to 67 yards rushing and 99 yards passing.

No. 4 Michigan 42, Purdue 27

Michigan became the second school in NCAA history to win 700 games as Tony Boles scored three touchdowns, one on an 85-yard kickoff return, and the Wolverines held off Purdue and red-hot freshman Eric Hunter.

Hunter, a true freshman making his first start, became the first quarterback ever to pass four touchdowns in a game against the Wolverines. Michigan is the first team in division I-A history to reach the 700 plateau. Yale is the all-time NCAA leader with 753 wins.

No. 5 Alabama 23, Mississippi St. 10

Siran Stacy ran for 149 yards and Gary Hollingsworth passed for 151 as Alabama moved closer to its first Southeastern Conference title since 1981.

Stacy scored from the 8, Martin Houston scored from the 1 and Phillip Doyle kicked three field goals as Alabama improved its record to 8-0 overall and 5-0 in the SEC. State fell to 4-4 and 1-4.

No. 6 Florida St. 35, S. Carolina 10

Peter Tom Willis passed for a career-high 362 yards and three touchdowns and Paul Moore ran for two more as Florida State won its seventh straight game.

Willis, who completed 25 of 38 passes, became the first Florida State quarterback to pass for more than 300 yards four times in a season. Kim Hammond and Gary Huff had previously done it three times apiece.

| Team       | W  | L | T |
|------------|----|---|---|
| Colorado   | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| Notre Dame | 41 | 0 | 0 |
| Michigan   | 42 | 0 | 0 |
| Alabama    | 23 | 0 | 0 |
| Florida    | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| Miami      | 40 | 0 | 0 |
| Illinois   | 31 | 0 | 0 |
| S. Cal     | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| Arkansas   | 38 | 0 | 0 |
| Auburn     | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Penn State | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| California | 29 | 0 | 0 |
| Virginia   | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| Houston    | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| Texas A&M  | 63 | 0 | 0 |

## Thomas helps Pistons beat Bullets

LANDOVER, Maryland, Nov 5. (AP): Isiah Thomas scored 20 of his 28 points in the second half and made a last-second steal as the Detroit Pistons held off the Washington Bullets 95-93 last night. It was Detroit's eighth consecutive victory over Washington dating back to March 20, 1988.

Joe Dumars scored six of his 17 points in the final 3:43 for the defending NBA champion Pistons, who won their second straight game. Washington got 19 points from Jeff Malone and 18 from Harvey Grant. The Bullets' Bernard King was ejected with 1:59 left in the first quarter for a flagrant elbow foul against Dennis Rodman.

The Pistons were unable to shake the Bullets after Thomas stalked them to an 84-77 lead with 7:20 to play. Dumars made four key free throws to give Detroit a 94-91 lead with 1:04 to play.

Pacers 106, Cavaliers 98

Chuck Person scored 15 of his 19 points in the final quarter and

Reggie Miller added 31, giving Indiana victories in its first two games for the first time since 1981.

Person scored nine of Indiana's last 12 points, starting with an 18-foot jumper and free throw that put the Pacers ahead 97-89 with 4:12 to play. John Williams led Cleveland with 30 points and 14 rebounds.

Knicks 119, Heat 99

Patrick Ewing scored 12 of his game-high 35 points in the fourth quarter New York pulled away to win its home opener. Johnny Newman, who made two key three-point plays in the final quarter, added 20 points while Charles Oakley had 18 points and 16 rebounds.

| Team         | W   | L | T |
|--------------|-----|---|---|
| New York     | 119 | 0 | 0 |
| Indiana      | 106 | 0 | 0 |
| Milwaukee    | 102 | 0 | 0 |
| Detroit      | 95  | 0 | 0 |
| New Jersey   | 111 | 0 | 0 |
| Boston       | 102 | 0 | 0 |
| San Antonio  | 106 | 0 | 0 |
| Denver       | 135 | 0 | 0 |
| Houston      | 132 | 0 | 0 |
| Sacramento   | 107 | 0 | 0 |
| Miami        | 99  | 0 | 0 |
| Cleveland    | 98  | 0 | 0 |
| Philadelphia | 96  | 0 | 0 |
| Washington   | 93  | 0 | 0 |
| Orlando      | 106 | 0 | 0 |
| Chicago      | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| L.A. Lakers  | 98  | 0 | 0 |
| Phoenix Suns | 132 | 0 | 0 |
| Golden State | 105 | 0 | 0 |
| Seattle      | 100 | 0 | 0 |



Thomas (right) dribbles past Malone. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Soviets move closer to world title

LUCERNE, Switzerland, Nov 5. (Reuter): The Soviet Union continued their winning ways yesterday, dropping only a half a point in an impressive seventh-round win against eight-placed China.

Their second successive title should be confirmed after their eighth round match against Hungary, one of the four teams previously in serious contention for a medal but who suffered a bad setback.

Fourth equal with the United States, they surprisingly lost their match with seventh-placed Switzerland and dropped to fifth place, one and a half points behind the pack.

Yugoslavia, who were previously a clear second, also suffered in their match against the sixth-placed

Cuba. But they managed to salvage a two-all draw leaving them still in second place, level with England.

The United States needed a high-scoring result against Africa to continue their recent comeback. But grandmaster John Fedorowicz on board one, blundered after having had a winning position against the Moroccan international master Hichem Hamdouchi and lost.

Although two of his colleagues won, one game was adjourned in what seems to be a completely drawn position, according to experts present.

They stay in fourth position, a point behind

## Indian captain

NEW DELHI, Nov 5. (Reuter): India retained Krishnamachari Srikkanth as their cricket captain for a tour of Pakistan from November 19 despite his failures in two recent tournaments.

India, under Srikkanth, played poorly in the Sharjah Cup last month and the Nehru Cup one-day tournament which ended on Wednesday. But it did not stop the selectors from confirming the 29-year-old opener for the post.

Dileep Vengarkar, who lost the captaincy to Srikkanth after a disastrous tour of the West Indies, said he was opting out of the Pakistan trip.

## Hutchinson glides to victory in annual windsurfing event

THE 5th Annual Photo Surf Windsurfing competition was held recently at the SAS Hotel, with Qabazard Marine again sponsoring this highly popular event. Apart from its inaugural year, Photo Surf has always been blessed by very favourable wind conditions, and this year was no exception, although one or two of the heavyweight racers felt that an extra knot or two of wind would not have gone amiss.

The first race started at 10:00 just as the southeasterly breeze began to fill in, and the large photo hungry crowd keenly awaited the expected duel between the two strongest teams, Qabazard Fanatic's and Mistral Sultan Center. Mistral's Ladislao Pascoe got the best start and took an early lead from Steve Hutchinson, with Steve Kelly on his Sultan Center Equipe in third, an advantage which he maintained until the fourth mark.

As he approached the buoy, he misread one of the waves and came off his board, allowing Hutchinson steal through into first place.

Pascoe quickly recovered to keep Kelly at bay, but was then too far behind to catch Hutchinson.

The order did not change for the remainder of the race, and these three were followed home by Turki Arneri, Mike Quinn, a veteran of all 4 previous Photo Surfs, and Owen Waters on his Al Boom sponsored Tiga. Another performance of note was that of Gunther Gunnersbach and Ken Balman who entered as part of the Qabazard team on a tandem board and finished a highly creditable 10th. After four years absence from Photo Surf it was pleasing to see the tandem in action again as not since the heady days of Team Lemming had this splendid craft seen active competition.

At this stage it became apparent that the lack of Abdul Rahman and Willie de Bie from the Fanatic's team, both top three finishers in the 1988 event, was likely to be too great a loss for them to carry, as all of the first four finishers were part of the Mistral team. With the four best



The racers (left) get their boards ready for the start of the race. Right: the event in progress

scores to be carried forward for the team competition, Bob Green's squad already had a sizeable lead.

Race Two began, with the wind

still increasing, from the now customary Le Mans style beach start. Hutchinson was off on a flyer and was never caught, and a poor start by main rival Pascoe saw Bob Ward take and maintain second. Kelly fought to hold third from Pascoe, but the Filipino's lighter weight told as he passed Kelly with reasonable ease. Waters continued to improve with 5th, just beating Arneri back to the beach. Quinn was extremely unfortunate to be caught in a melee at the start and was last away, but from there performed superbly to catch and pass 30 of the fleet and finish in 9th place.

The warped sense of humour of the race organiser, Ian Thomas, did nothing for the tandem's chances as he had set a course with mainly gybe marks and although the double board tacks well, the gybe proved to be a different kettle of fish. Even so, a 16th place was in the top half of the field.

Unlike most other sailing competitions, at Photo Surf all three races count towards the final individual standings, so even having won both races so far, Hutchinson could not afford to take it easy in the final race. Pascoe this time got the best start and sailed a flawless race round the longest course of the day to secure a first place.

Quinn this time found things going much better to maintain second until the final metres of the race, when Hutchinson slipped by the beach. Quinn was thus ensured himself first place overall. With Pascoe guaranteed to be in the runners-up position, the battle was on for third. Next home, Waters, had to re-sail the final 100m of the course having missed the last buoy, and in doing so nearly took a tail end sailor off at the knees as he slam gybed round the mark in his hurry to hold off the challenge of Green, who had to settle for 5th.

Waters was now sure of at least 4th place overall, as only Kelly

could beat his 15 total. Earlier in the race the two met board to board at the third mark, and although Waters had to round the mark again as a penalty, he still came off better as Kelly contrived to try and demolish the SAS's new concrete pier with his Equipe, before continuing. No damage was done however, and he sailed home in 7th to pip Waters by one point. One place ahead was Brian Ashwell, sailing a splendid race, to temporarily break the complete dominance of the more up market board manufacturers.

Once again it was impossible to keep the tandem pair of Balman and Gunnersbach out of action, as they won the prize of day for the best dismount. Having approached the beach at full speed, there was no attempt to slow down, so that when the board suddenly grounded and stopped, they didn't. The resulting synchronised nose first landings should have provided excellent footage for any eagle eyed cameraman or woman on the beach.

This year had seen Qabazard Marine's sponsorship increased to include prizes for the top ten finishers, with the main awards being a complete board, a board and boom, and a board.

The prize winners were: 1st Steve Hutchinson, 2nd: Ladislao Pascoe, 3rd Steve Kelly, 4th: Owen Waters, 5th: Mike Quinn, 6th: Bob Green, 7th: Turki Arneri, 8th: Bob Ward, 9th: Ibrahim Qaddoumi and 10th: Simon Greene. Prizes were also donated by Merit and Jashamal (Swatch) to the top three sailors. A great deal of sympathy must go to Steve Kelly, who after his fourth year has never finished outside the top three, but has never quite managed to win the event.

The final race event was the team relay, which along with the best individual scores, counted for the team trophy. By now Mistral were so far ahead as to be unassailable, but this didn't stop Qabazard Fanatic's giving their all. Quinn led off and handed over a useful lead to Mike Deavy.

The whole Photo Surf occasion, which provides entertainment for all the family with children's games and the photographic competition sponsored by Ashraf & Co. as well as the racing, was rounded off by the presentation of prizes by Abdul Majeed Qabazard. The photo competition will be judged by Ashraf's and Arab Times' photographer Mark Williams, and entries must be submitted by Nov 10, the results being announced at the SAS on Nov 17. At the end of yet another successful Photo Surf, thanks must go to the organisers, the Rondels, and to all the efforts of their numerous helpers.

The full Mouchel Kuwait Monday Darts League results were as follows, with Ladies scores in brackets:

Essex 3, Camptologists 3

Tyne Tees PP (192) Bags (113)

Cotter House (313) Ragamuffins (113)

Stars of Y (31) T.C.F. (115)

Brakhs & Lizi (210) Monroe's (216)

Standings

Ladies League

Team

1 Nightflights

2 Marilyn's

3 Featherlights

4 Tyne Tees

5 Appalar

6 Stars of Y

7 Cotter House

8 T.C.F.

9 Ragabags

## Beck shoots record as US beat Europe

TOKYO, Nov 5. (Reuter): Chip Beck shot a sparkling course record of 10-under-par 62 as the United States won the million dollar Four Tours World Championship of Golf today.

The Americans ended the final against Europe level 6-6 on points but on a countback of total strokes taken in the final they lifted the title by 404 to 416.

It was some compensation for America's failure to wrest the Ryder Cup from Europe's grasp in England in September.

The Americans thus retained the Four Tours title for the third straight year and it was their second team title this season following their first win in the Dunhill Cup last month.

Beck shot one eagle and eight birdies from the 16th hole to break the course record by one shot.

"It's fun to set a course record. I made 63 several times but 62 is my best round," said the 33-year-old Beck who beat Europe's captain Bernhard Langer by six shots.

US captain Tom Kite carded the day's second lowest score of 65 against Welshman Ian Woosnam, who shot a 71.

"We knew it was going to be very tough competition against the Europeans. But our players played so well," said Kite, the US top money earner.

British Open champion Mark Calcavecchia easily took the first match, beating Briton Mark James 68-74.

Then Europe's top money earner's Ronan Rafferty of Northern Ireland, and Scot Gordon Brand Jr won their matches against Ken Green and Payne Stewart. Scores were 66-70 and 69-70 respectively.

Beck and Kite restored the America's lead but in the final game Spain's Jose Maria Olazabal edged US Open champion Curtis Strange 68-69 for a 6-6 tie. The low scoring of Beck and Kite had a significant effect in the countback.

In the playoff for third place, Japan defeated Australia/New Zealand 9-3.

Norman, the captain of the Australia/New Zealand side, fired a solid 65 to beat Japan's number one Masashi Ozaki who scored a 68.

## Baggs and Nightflights triumph yet again

THE farewell appearances of Bob Cuff and Alan and Suzanne Dickinson did little to halt the progress of either Baggs or Nightflights in the Mouchel Kuwait Monday Darts League this week.

In with a good chance of at least a draw at 2-2 after the singles, Baggs edge in both Mickey Mouse legs negated the earlier good work by Tyne Tees PP, especially that of Andy Wilson who recorded a second consecutive Monday singles victory over Baggs captain Bader Mohammed Rafi. Teesers fared no better slipping 3-0 behind to Nightflights before grabbing a consolation leg and not drawing for the first time this season!

Nick Hassell continues to have double trouble for Esixes as they fought back to earn a draw against Campanologists. Despite scores of 140 and 160 he went down 1-2 to a jubilant Peter Bote as once again the 'ringers' failed to win either of the MM legs to capitalise on sound earlier play.

Brahms & Lizi ended up somewhat punch drunk after the visit of Monroe's, as the celluloid heroes could do no wrong. Graham Simms' 140 obviously upset opponent Erik Christensen as he proceeded to hit a 140, 3 100's and an 18 dart leg in a convincing 2-0 win. The scene having been set, Peter Anew and Peter Zobrist both followed suit in the 140 stakes, the latter showing off by doing it twice. Both these games finished 2-1 with both Brahms & Lizi from being completely legless, although the final scoreline was 6-4.

Featherlights seemed to be going the same as they went 2-0 down to Marilyn's after the 301 legs, with Caryn Garaygay scoring a 114. However, after opposition in the MM games, salvaged a valuable point for the home girls.

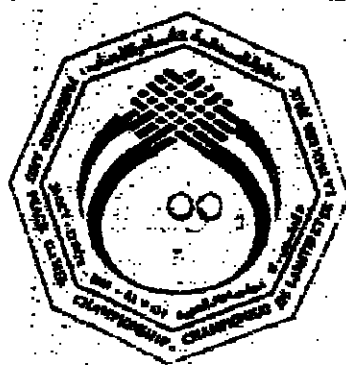
Elsewhere Ragamuffins played out their third successive draw, this time against Cotter House. 140's for Brandon Richardson and Bill Morton could not stop the Muffins taking a 3-1 lead, but the Hoose responded valiantly in the final two legs. C.H. Ladies took two more points despite losing the first leg to the Ragabags as Renz Byfers scored a 110.

The full Mouchel Kuwait Monday Darts League results were as follows, with Ladies scores in brackets:

Essex 3, Camptologists 3

Tyne Tees PP (192) Bags (113)





## Pakistan and Kuwait win easily

PAKISTAN crushed Benin 15-2 in the Peace and Friendship Games volleyball tournament yesterday to extend their unbeaten record in this tournament.

In the other match played yesterday, Kuwait also maintained its unbeaten run with a 15-2 15-11 15-0 victory over North Yemen. Both the matches were played at the Qadisiya Club.

With today being a rest day, Pakistan now play Saudi Arabia in their semifinal match tomorrow. The Pakistanis, who have been tipped to take the title, are expected to have an easy game. Pakistan finished fourth in the Asian Championships recently and also won the SAF Games gold medal in this event last month.

The Pakistanis are expected to face Egypt again in the final. But Egypt have to overcome Kuwait before they get a chance to avenge their defeat in a group match.

Kuwait demonstrated yesterday that it would put up a fight and try to win its semifinal game by demolishing the North Yemenis. The home team gave away only two points in the first set before relaxing in the second. The Kuwaitis took the second set easy but gave away 11 points in the process.

Kuwait, however, showed that they meant business in the third set by sweeping their opponents off their feet and not allowing them to win any point.

The best match so far has been the Pakistan-Egypt game in which the former fought back for victory after losing the first set.

According to experts who watched the clash Pakistan should be able to beat their opponents again in a case of a return match with comparative ease.

### Today's programme

Basketball: Group B: Indonesia vs UAE at 3.00 pm; Jordan vs Cameroon at 4.30 pm, at Al Kuwait Club.

Handball: Group A: Turkey vs Palestine at 6.15 pm; Kuwait vs Mali at 7.30 pm, at Al Arabi Club.

## S. Yemen upset Guinea

# Iraq hold Iran to draw



Above and below: action shots of the Kuwait-Uganda match



match and had to show the yellow card only once during the whole match when an Iranian player seemed to have brought down an Iraqi striker intentionally.

As only two teams qualify for

the semifinals of each group, Iraq needed at least a draw to play in the semifinals, while Iran were in a more comfortable position as the match did not affect their chances of reaching the semifinals, except in case of 0-3 defeat.

Guinea, the other team that had chances to reach the semifinals, lost their match against last team in the group, South Yemen 0-1. Guinea entered the match with three points, obtained when they surprisingly beat Iraq 1-0 and drew with Iran 1-1. All experts tipped Guinea to reach the semifinals at the cost of either Iraq or Iran. But their astonishing defeat not only dampened their hopes, but relieved the Iraqi teams of extra tension.

But both teams were looking for a win. Iraq needed to score in order to secure their semifinal berth in case of an unexpected late goal by Iran, which would have sent them out of the competition. Iran, on the other hand wanted to ensure they remained top of the group and thus avoid meeting Kuwait in the semifinal. Although there were few scoring chances in the match, the best chance came to Iran early in the second half, when an Iranian defender sent a long ball forward which found Iranian striker, Mutlag, who has two goals to his credit. Mutlag took the ball, passed through the wide gap in the Iraqi defence and was face to face with the goalkeeper. But he shot straight at the goalkeeper who came out to meet him.

Kuwait and Uganda Saturday drew 1-1 in an exciting soccer match.

The Kuwaiti selection with this result topped the first group on goal difference.

The Kuwaiti goal was scored from a penalty kick in the first half and in the second half Uganda managed to score the equalizer also through a penalty kick.

Both Kuwait and Uganda beat Lebanon (5-0) and 2-0 respectively.

In Udaliya area. President of the society, Dalal Al Roumi hailed in a speech the efforts of the Organising Committee of the Games and all sports officials.

**Lebanese team:** The Lebanese football team and officials who took part in the Games will leave for Lebanon today. Lebanon lost their two matches against Kuwait and Uganda in Group A of the football competition.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese delegation will present a memorial shield to Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed in appreciation of his efforts in organising the Peace and Friendship Games.

## UAE stun Jordan

### Kuwait rout Syria

THE United Arab Emirates basketball team sprang the biggest surprise of the Peace and Friendship Games late Saturday when they beat Jordan 99-78.

The Jordanian team had been tipped for the title of the basketball competition and its unexpected defeat has totally changed the position of Group B.

In order to qualify for the semifinals, Jordan has to beat Cameroon in their last match by a margin of 18 points. Jordan and UAE have got two points each while Cameroon have four, Cameroon beat UAE and Indonesia. Barring any more surprises, UAE should have an easy match against a weak Indonesian team and reach the semifinals.

The task for Jordan, however, won't be that easy, as Cameroon have shown to be a good side in their previous two matches. The Jordanian team who narrowly lost the Arab Cup to Egypt recently, did not live to expectations. Although they went ahead 16-6 after few minutes, UAE battled back to level at 20-20. UAE never looked back and ended the first half 48-41.

But the biggest surprise was the sudden decline of the Jordanian team displayed. They were totally a different side in all departments in their opening match against Indonesia, which they won 117-66. In Saturday's match, they were very slow in

moving from defense to offense. Most of their shots at the basket were in vain and rebounds turned by UAE players into 'fast breaks' particularly in the second half.

The Jordanians heavily relied on Helal Barakat, who was marked closely by UAE players. Barakat is so far the top scorer in the tournament.

Today's meeting between Jordan and Cameroon is expected to be one of the most exciting basketball matches so far. The two teams will meet at 4.30 pm while UAE face Indonesia at 3.00 pm at the Al Kuwait Club.

In Group A, Kuwait beat Syria yesterday 100-88 to top their group. The first half score also ended in Kuwait's favour 50-36. This defeat has not affected Syria's chances of reaching the semifinals. They are now lying second behind Kuwait, Somalia and Bahrain, the other two teams in the group, were beaten twice each and thus are out of the competition.

The semifinal matches of basketball competition will begin on Wednesday after Tuesday's rest day. The matches will also be played at Al Kuwait Club.

| Group B   |   |   |     |     |
|-----------|---|---|-----|-----|
|           | W | L | PF  | PA  |
| Cameroon  | 2 | — | 188 | 126 |
| Jordan    | 1 | 1 | 195 | 165 |
| UAE       | 1 | 1 | 160 | 154 |
| Indonesia | — | 2 | 131 | —   |



An action shot of the UAE-Jordan game.



Fekrou Kidane

## Sheikh Fahd gets Kidane as adviser

SHEIKH FAHD AL AHMED, president of the Kuwait Olympic Committee and Olympic Council of Asia, has appointed Fekrou Kidane as his personal adviser in order to keep abreast of matters relating to apartheid and development of sport in the Third World.

Sheikh Fahd said that he was not only concerned about Asia but also about Africa, Oceania, Latin America and the Caribbean. He felt that the development of sport in the Third World was an important ingredient in establishing peace and friendship in the world.

Kidane, who has also served as advisor to International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch, is a former diplomat with 15 years service at the United Nations. A prominent journalist, Kidane is also a member of IOC, FIFA and IAAF press commissions. The 54-year-old Kidane speaks five languages, has visited 147 countries and is chairman of the International Campaign against Apartheid in Sport (Icaas).

Sheikh Fahd has been involved in the struggle against apartheid since 1979. He is also the chairman of the Afro-Asian Consultative Committee.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

his thanks and gratitude for Kuwait for organising the Peace and Friendship Games. He thanked Sheikh Fahd for the great efforts he has and is still exerting for the benefit of Asian and international sports movement.

**Kazma Club:** The newsmen covering events of the Peace and Friendship Games will today pay a visit to Kazma Club at the invitation of the club secretary, Sulaiman Al Adassani. The newsmen will tour the club and see its installations.

**Musical concert:** The football centre of the Games will organise today a musical concert for the delegations of the seven teams who took part in the soccer competition. Singers and artists from the seven countries will take part.

**Fashion show:** The Islamic Welfare Society held yesterday a function and a fashion show in honour of wives of heads of delegations and IOC ambassadors in Kuwait. The function was held at the society premises

## Palestine face Turkey

THE Palestine handball team, who revived their hopes of reaching the last four after beating Mali Saturday 37-15, today face a difficult task when they play Turkey. Both teams have two points each from one win and one loss.

Palestine lost their opening match against leaders of Group A, Kuwait 5-34, while Turkey beat Mali 46-18 and lost to Kuwait 15-23. Turkey was tipped as favourites for the final match before they arrived in Kuwait, but their performance against Kuwait great greatly dipped their chances. But they can still make to the last four by beating Palestine.

The Palestinian team, who were collected from various countries just 10 days before the start of the Games, badly

lost to Kuwait in their opening match, but they rallied to outclass Mali. Palestine and Turkey will play the first match today at 6.15 pm while Kuwait will take on Mali, who lost all hopes after two defeats, at 7.30 pm at the Al Arabi Club in Mansouriya.

Kuwait's match against Mali is a routine affair as Kuwait is almost sure of topping this group. They have already qualified for the semifinals after winning their first two matches against Palestine and Turkey with big margins.

In Group B, which includes Algeria, Morocco, Senegal and Burkina Fasso, yesterday two matches were being played late last night. Morocco played Senegal and Algeria met Burkina Fasso.



### Bangladeshi reception

The Bangladesh Embassy hosted a reception yesterday for the Bangladesh athletic delegation, which took part in the Peace and Friendship Games. The team won five medals. Members of the delegation are seen with the Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin, Mrs. Shehabuddin and other embassy officials.

(Photo by Manzer Houriya)

## International committee for Games formed

AN international committee for the Peace and Friendship Games was formed in Kuwait yesterday. Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad, the chairman of the Kuwait Olympic Committee and deputy chairman of the organising committee for the Games, was elected as president of the new committee.

The committee will be based permanently in Kuwait. This was announced at the conclusion of an expanded meeting yesterday at the Meridien hotel,

and was attended by a number of youth and sports ministers visiting Kuwait, and heads of delegations taking part in the Games. Representatives of 41 Islamic countries attended the meeting.

The new committee will also have to follow up the issue of holding the Peace and Friendship Games on regular basis. No programme or time table for the committee's activities has been released.

Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad heads the five member team which includes Dr Abdul Ahmad Jamaluddin from Egypt, Sheikh Issa Bin Rashid Al Khalifa from Bahrain, Wajed Ali from Pakistan and Lamin Deyak from Senegal. The meeting was held in the morning and chaired by a member of IOC, Bashir Al Tarabulsi.

The meeting also elected a three-man committee to administer its proceedings. The committee comprises Senegal Sports and Youth Minister, Abdullah Mukhtar, as its chairman, Dr Abdul Halim Mohammad, IOC member and Sudarno, head of the Indonesian delegation.

After deliberations, the meet-



Some of delegates at the meeting

ing agreed to form the 5-man committee which will discuss and pave the way for organising the Peace and Friendship Games on regular basis. The meeting also asked the head of the Palestinian delegation, Fuad Rashid, to deliver a speech on behalf of all delegation at the closing ceremonies.

Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad than-

ked all the Islamic countries for their response to the holding of the Peace and Friendship Games. Sheikh Fahd also thanked the meeting for the great trust they had placed in him in electing him chairman of the International Committee for Peace and Friendship Games. He said that their response and presence of the Islamic coun-

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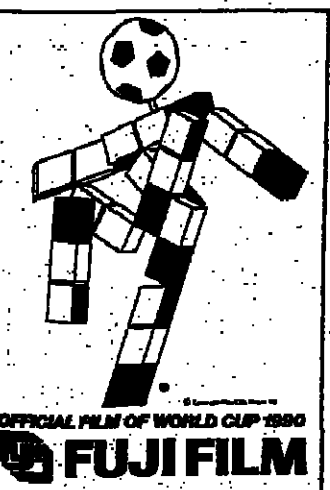
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## SPORTS

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## French soccer

PARIS, Nov 5, (Reuters): French First Division soccer results yesterday:

|            |   |           |   |
|------------|---|-----------|---|
| Bordeaux   | 3 | Nantes    | 0 |
| Mulhouse   | 1 | Marseille | 2 |
| Cannes     | 2 | Toulouse  | 2 |
| Lille      | 5 | Sochaux   | 0 |
| PSG        | 1 | Auxerre   | 1 |
| Monaco     | 1 | Nice      | 0 |
| Caen       | 3 | Montpel.  | 2 |
| Brest      | 2 | Metz      | 0 |
| St Etienne | 0 | Racing P. | 1 |
| Toulon     | 1 | Lyon      | 1 |

## Real flounder

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, Nov 5, (Reuters): Spanish Soccer League champions and leaders Real Madrid, knocked out of the European Cup on Wednesday, suffered a further jolt when they lost 2-1 away to Real Sociedad on a rain-drenched pitch yesterday.

## England win

LONDON, Nov 5, (Reuters): Winger Rory Underwood scored half England's 10 tries as they crushed a sometimes brutal Fiji 58-23 at Twickenham yesterday.

## Canadian Open

MONTREAL, Nov 5, (Reuters): Second seed Anders Nideus crushed third-seeded fellow Briton Matthew Smith 15-4 15-1 to win the men's singles title at the Canadian Open badminton championships yesterday.

## Women's hockey

NEW DELHI, Nov 5, (Reuters): Results in the 12-nation women's Intercontinental Cup hockey tournament today: South Korea beat Ireland 4-1 (halftime 2-0), China beat Scotland 3-0 (halftime 2-0), United States beat Austria 4-1 (halftime 1-0), Spain beat India 2-1 (halftime 1-0).

## Ikangaa wins

NEW YORK, Nov 5, (Reuters): Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania won the 20th New York City marathon in an unofficial course record time of two hours eight minutes today. American Ken Martin finished second and Olympic champion Gelindo Bordin of Italy was third. Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway won the women's division in an unofficial time of 2:25:30.

## British soccer

LONDON, Nov 5, (Reuters): Results of British soccer matches today:

|                        |   |         |   |
|------------------------|---|---------|---|
| English Division One   |   |         |   |
| Aston Villa            | 6 | Everton | 2 |
| English Division Three |   |         |   |
| Leyton Orient          | 1 | Fulham  | 1 |

## Italian soccer

ROME, Nov 5, (Reuters): Results of Italian First Division soccer matches today:

|            |   |          |   |
|------------|---|----------|---|
| Bay        | 0 | Genoa    | 0 |
| Cesena     | 1 | Udinese  | 0 |
| Florentina | 2 | Bologna  | 1 |
| Verona     | 0 | Inter    | 2 |
| Lazio      | 1 | Atalanta | 3 |
| AC Milan   | 3 | Juventus | 1 |
| Napoli     | 3 | Lecco    | 2 |
| Sampdoria  | 4 | Roma     | 2 |

## BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Hubara Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

N/S: Nahil Akel & Narendra Shah  
E/W: Merchant & Carsten  
3. Bianca Mousasali & Ahmed Tawil  
E/W: Kaddoura & Benarji  
2. Arafah & Rassim  
3. Laila Maraki & El Baz

## Garrison stuns Sabatini, Navratilova wins

WORCESTER, Mass., Nov 5 (Reuters): Third seed Zina Garrison staged a remarkable semifinal comeback, winning a pair of tiebreaks to oust second seed Gabriela Sabatini from the \$300,000 New England tennis tournament yesterday.

In today's final, Garrison was to play top seed Martina Navratilova, who earlier cruised to a comfortable 6-3 6-2 victory over American Anne Smith. Sabatini, ranked third in the world, was one point from taking the opening set after building a 5-1, 40-0 lead.

Unfortunately for the second-seeded Argentine, Garrison came out of her trance in time to turn the match around.

"I didn't win anything at the start of the match," said Garrison. "I was not feeling the ball and thought it was going to be an off-night. I was very frustrated."

When the 25-year-old American finally made her move, she was relentless and it was Sabatini who became frustrated as Garrison began slicing winners and scoring with drop shots.

Garrison roared back to take the seventh game and eventually forced a tiebreak which she won 7-4. "For a long time I didn't fight," said Sabatini, 19, whose game unravelled when Garrison started to roll.

"I was angry at missing that first set and maybe I didn't try to come into it in the second set."

Garrison made one major mistake in the second set when she squandered a match point, thinking she had it won at 5-4, 40-30.

## Becker blasts Edberg

## McEnroe goes out in semifinal

PARIS, Nov 5, (AP): Top-seeded Boris Becker outclassed No. 2 seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 today to capture the \$1.3 million Paris Indoor Open tennis tournament in their first meeting since the Wimbledon final, where Becker also won in straight sets.

Littered with unforced errors, especially by Edberg, the match was somewhat anti-climatic after the fireworks and superb tennis of the semifinal between Becker and John McEnroe the day before.

"Yesterday it was much tougher," Becker said. "But sometimes that's the way it goes in the final."

In the final of the tournament, which 17 of the top 20 entered, Edberg could not cope with the pressure of Becker's serve and continually sprayed service returns out of the court. Becker had aces and numerous service winners.

The 15,000 fans who watched the finale were displeased with the level of the play and sarcastically cheered when Edberg



Boris Becker

took a game, even of his service after a struggle.

The tone of the match was set in the first game when Becker broke Edberg to go up 1-0. Becker then held his serve for a

2-0 advantage which he held the remainder of the way.

"I had a good start and I didn't let up the rest of the way at all," Becker said.

Becker beat McEnroe 7-6 6-3 6-3 in a match which had several outbursts from the American, a penalty point and some of the finest tennis you could ever hope to see.

Edberg dispatched tenacious American Aaron Krickstein 6-4 4-6 6-2.

Becker, just back on the Grand Prix circuit after almost two months out with knee injuries, announced that he was back in business on Friday after a second nerve-racking victory in a third set tiebreak over a player ranked much lower.

He proved the point against a McEnroe at his brilliant best. Becker had to be at the top of his game to win, and he was.

He showed nerves of steel in refusing to be upset by McEnroe's tantrums, which included a complaint that Becker was disturbing him by coughing before he served.

## Holyfield retains title

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Nov 5, (UPI): After five even rounds, Evander Holyfield opened a gash over Alex Stewart's right eye in the sixth and won the heavyweight bout when the referee and ringside doctor stopped it last night at 2:51 of the eighth round of the scheduled 12-round fight.

Holyfield improved to 23-0 with 19 knockouts, but might not have won impressively enough to set up a bout against champion Mike Tyson. Stewart fell to 24-1 with 24 knockouts.

Stewart's right eye was nicked in the second round but he gave a good account of himself for several more rounds. The fight seemed to be turning in his favour in the fifth, when Holyfield's attack slowed considerably and Stewart landed a sharp left jab-straight right combination to the head.

Holyfield opened the sixth strong, however, and had Stewart wobbled 1:00 into the round. The flurry also widened the cut over Stewart's eye and blood began to flow down his face.

Ringside doctor Frank Doggett

examined Stewart's eye before the seventh, but the corner stopped the flow of blood. It opened again early in the seventh, and again the doctor looked in the corner after the round.

Stewart's legs were wobbly in the eighth and he offered little resistance as Holyfield punched away. Stewart's eye was filled with blood and he obviously had trouble seeing when Doggett and referee Tony Perez halted the bout.

On the undercard, former two-time champion Hector 'Macho' Camacho won a unanimous decision over Raul Torres in a junior welterweight bout and 1988 Olympic super heavyweight silver medalist Riddick Bowe scored a fourth-round knockout over Garling Lane to improve to 10-0 with 9 knockouts.

## Chinese set meet record

CHANDIGARH, India, Nov 5, (AP): China set a meet record and won gold medals in seven events at the 3rd Asian Rowing Championships today.

Li Zhongrong and Yao Jianzhong set the record in the men's double scull, finishing in 6 minutes, 44.72 seconds, or 13 seconds ahead of the previous record set in 1987 by Chinese rowers.

Japan's Sakata Masahiro and Abe Tadashi also beat the previous record, finishing second in the race with a time of 6:45.48.

In addition to the double scull, China won gold medals in the men's open pair, the women's lightweight double scull, the men's open single scull, the men's lightweight double scull and the men's open cox four.

North Korea finished second overall, capturing two gold, two silver and two bronze medals.



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## Sunday Silence triumphs

HALLANDALE, Fla., (Reuters): Sunday Silence and Easy Goer stayed off the early pace but came roaring back to battle down the straight with Sunday Silence driving for victory by a neck over his arch rival in the Breeder's Cup Classic yesterday.

Blushing John took the lead of the 1-1/4 mile race at the mile pole and held it into the early part of the straight, valiantly battling his two more famous opponents.

But Blushing John faded to finish third by one length, 9-3/4 lengths ahead of Present Value.

Chris McCarron, who took Sunday Silence to a \$1.35 million payday, became the three-year-old colt's jockey after Pat Valenzuela was suspended last month for failing a drug test.

McCarron was asked if he was aware of Easy Goer's position down the straight.

"I gave a peek at the 16th pole and I saw a couple of chestnut legs there and I knew he was coming."

"This colt, when I set him down and turned for home he kicked it in nice," McCarron said.

Asked about Blushing John who pushed Sunday Silence for



Sunday Silence leads Easy Goer (left) and Blushing John (centre) at the finish (Reuters wirephoto).

much of the race, McCarron said: "I had a feeling Blushing John would be tough... I wasn't letting him out of my sight."

It was Sunday Silence's third victory in four starts against Easy Goer, who had been strongly touted as horse of the year pending the outcome of this race, which he was heavily-favoured to win.

It also was sweet revenge for the dark brown colt, as Easy

Goer, who won \$675,000 yesterday, destroyed Sunday Silence's bid to win the US Triple crown.

Sunday Silence had won the first two legs, the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness, and needed the Belmont Stakes to become the first triple crown winner since 1978.

But Easy Goer humiliated Sunday Silence with an eight-length victory in the last of the triple crown races.

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## UAS champions

The Universal American School varsity boys volleyball team (above) won the Eastern Mediterranean Activities Conference (Emac) volleyball title in Athens recently. This was UAS' third crown. UAS defeated American School of Kuwait, the American Community School of Athens, American Community School of Amman, Campion School of Athens and the Tassie School of Athens. A proud coach, Mrs Vicky Al Khalil, returned to Kuwait with the first place trophy. Meanwhile, the UAS junior varsity volleyball team (below) also proved that they are a winning combination by taking the Emac title in their group in Dubai. They defeated teams from Kuwait, UAE and Egypt. The junior team put on a superb display of volleyball throughout the event to make their coach David Rojeck proud of them.



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